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National Anti-Slavery Standard.

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Selections.

ENGLAND'S ORATOR AT THE CAPITOL.

Reception of George Thompson in Washington.

From The Washington Morning Chronicle of April 7.

A VAST audience assembled last night in the Hall of the House of Representatives to listen to the famous orator of England, the Hon. Geo. Thompson. At 8 p. m. the distinguished speaker made his appearance, amid enthusiastic cheers, accompanied by Vice-President Hamlin, the Rev. John Pierpont, and followed by the President, whose incoming was the signal of immense and long-continued applause. Among the prominent gentlemen present were Secretaries Chase and Usher, Senators Reverdy Johnson, Foote, Wilson, Harris, Lane, of Indiana, Clark, Judge Holt, Speaker Colfax, ex-Governor Wright, Stevens, of Pennsylvania, Judge Kelley, and others. The floor of the House was filled and the gallery was occupied with such a crowd as rarely is attracted to its benches. It is seldom that an assembly comprising so much of the intellect, beauty, and fashion of the metropolis, is gathered within four walls. The passages of Mr. T.'s speech relating to the extermination of slavery, the final triumph over the rebellion, and the opinions and services of Abraham Lincoln, were most vociferously cheered.

Mr. PIERPONT said: Ladies and gentlemen, as Senators and Members of the House of Representatives have united with the Washington Literary Association in extending their invitation to the distinguished gentleman who is to address you this evening, it seems proper to impress the meeting with a national character, the more so, as the House of Representatives have placed in the hands of the Association this Hall for the occasion. The Association, through its President, has therefore asked the Vice-President the favor of presiding over the meeting and introducing the speaker.

The VICE PRESIDENT on taking the chair was heartily received. He said:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: At the solicitation of the gentlemen under whose auspices this meeting is convened, I assume the pleasant duty of presiding over you and introducing the distinguished gentleman who is to address you. But for its appropriate connection with the object of the meeting, I need hardly say that we are to-day witnessing perhaps the greatest revolution—the greatest rebellion—the world has ever witnessed. Perhaps, if at any one period there has been more solicitude felt than at another during this struggle, it has been when some of us have thought that foreign governments might inappropriately seek to interfere and intervene in our affairs. If such solicitude has been entertained, it has, I trust, happily passed away (applause). We live, to-day, to know that this rebellion is to be crushed to its last vestige, in spite of every aid within our own government and out of it (cheers). He who doubts that fact is a political infidel (applause). It is grateful to know that while such solicitude may have existed among good and true men, we have had in other governments, between whom and ourselves there ought always to exist the best of relations, and an administration of government upon the strictest rules of neutrality, able and eminent men who have been loyal Americans if they have been British subjects (cheers). Such a one, with a reputation world-wide, and with a fame that shall live in history, beside that of Clarkson and Wilberforce, is here to-night to speak to you (cheers). In the name of this large audience, in the name of all loyal men in this broad land, aye, in the name of liberty herself, permit me to welcome you, sir, in this temple of our government (applause). The words of cheer that you shall speak will find a ready and a willing echo in the hearts of those present (applause). I have the honor and pleasure of presenting to this audience the Hon. Mr. Thompson, of England.

Mr. THOMPSON said:

If I betray some emotion on this occasion, and on rising I find myself all but unable to address you, ascribe my embarrassment to the true cause—to the fact that I stand in the hall of the House of Representatives of the United States of America to express my views, without restriction, upon a sacred theme, for the discussion of which I have been more than once banished from your shores with contumely and ignominy. I am overwhelmed with wonder and with gratitude in the presence of the facts which are daily taking place before my eyes, and in the prospect of that glorious future, which, under the blessing and guidance of Divine Providence, I hope and pray awaits this great republic (cheers).

I can, with unfeigned sincerity, affirm that I regard it as the highest honor which has been conferred upon me during my public life, to be permitted, in the Hall of Representatives, in the Capitol of the United States, to address an assembly of the citizens of America.

In availing myself of this high privilege, I beg, in the first place, to tender my heartfelt acknowledgments to the Board of Managers of the Washington Lecture Association, for their cordial invitation to speak before them, and the citizens of this District at large, upon "*the great issues of the time.*" I also thank so many of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives as were pleased to signify their concurrence in that invitation, and to express their desire to listen to my humble voice. More especially do I offer my grateful thanks to those who occupy seats within these walls, who have done me the honor, by a vote of the House, to accord to me the distinguished favor of saying that which I have to say from the position which I now occupy.

Ladies and gentlemen, before I proceed to make those observations which I had intended to make, permit me to notice a circumstance that occurred within these walls on Monday last. Not until a late hour last night, was I aware that, during the sitting of the House of Representatives on Monday, an honorable member rose in his place and introduced a resolution, to the following effect:

> Whereas, George Thompson, of England, in March, 1834, declared that the dissolution of this Union should be steadily kept in view; therefore,
> Resolved, That the resolution, heretofore passed, granting the use of this hall to the said George Thompson on the evening of the 6th of April, is hereby rescinded.

On the perusal of that preamble and resolution, I felt it my duty instantly to address a brief note to the honorable member, the author of what I have read. Here is my note:

325 G street, Washington,
Tuesday evening, April 5, 1864.

The Hon. James R. Morris:

SIR: I am just made aware by the record of proceedings in Congress, as reported in the newspapers of this day's date, that you introduced yesterday in the House of Representatives a resolution affirming that "George Thompson, of England, in March, 1834, declared that the dissolution of this Union should be steadily kept in view."

As such a declaration was never made by me, either at the time mentioned above, or at any other period, I beg respectfully to request that you will, at your earliest convenience, favor me with the authority upon which you made so grave a statement as ground for parliamentary action.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant, GEORGE THOMPSON.

To that note Mr. Morris has, down to this moment, favored me with no reply (laughter). I am, therefore, ignorant of the grounds upon which the honorable member brought against me the accusations which he uttered from his place in Parliament. I have speculated upon the reasons that he might assign for alleging against me that I had, at any period of my life, been unfriendly to the Union of the States in this country, and I shall do all that I can to exonerate him, as a gentleman, an American citizen, and a member of the House of Representatives, from the suspicion of deliberately preferring against me a charge for which I know there is no real foundation. [The speaker here asked the audience to excuse him while he read a note, just put in his hands, which he believed was from Mr. Morris.]

It is as I supposed. Perhaps if Mr. Morris is present he will rather thank than blame me for calling the attention of the audience to his resolution. The note which I have just received from him, is dated Washington, April 6:

Mr. George Thompson:

SIR: Your note of the 5th instant is just received. In answer, permit me to say, that on the 4th instant I offered the enclosed resolution, founded on a letter purporting to be written by you, which you will find in the appendix to the Congressional *Globe* for the second session of the 36th Congress, volume 44, page 105 of the appendix.

Very respectfully, J. R. MORRIS.

The letter referred to, which I have no doubt I shall find in the Congressional *Globe*, as stated by Mr. Morris, is the same letter which is referred to in the first volume of the record of your rebellion, which I hold in my hand. And well may the Vice-President of the United States and the President of the Senate say that this is a gigantic as well as a foul and wicked rebellion, for this is but one of six volumes containing its records, and how many more are yet to come depends partially upon the persistence in evil of those misguided men who are still in arms, partially upon your resolution and courage in its suppression, but more still upon that Divine Providence who has thus far so singularly watched over you (hear). In the first volume of these ponderous records, and on the twenty-fourth page of that portion of it which contains public documents, I read that during the delivery of a speech, Mr. Sherard Clemens referred to an article in *The Liberator* newspaper and to Mr. Garrison, and then went on to say that their retiring Confederates "ought not to forget the events of 1834, when George Thompson, the English Abolitionist, was sent to enlighten the dead conscience of the American people." In this conection he cited a letter from Thompson to Murrill, of Tennessee, in which was this sentence: "The dissolution of the Union is the object to be kept steadily in view." I have an answer to that, and it is, first, that I never in my life have cherished a hostile or even an unfriendly feeling toward the Union (cheers). Second, that I never in my life addressed a letter to Mr. Murrill, in Tennessee, or to any man in any slave State of the United States (loud cheers), and, third, that down to March, 1834, and afterwards, I had never writen a solitary line to America. And that I may speak without reserve and absolutely, I here deliberately affirm that I callenge and defy the bitterest enemy to you and your Union to find within the range of my speeches and writings anything that would justify an imputation of unfriendliness to that Union (cheers). What I have said about your Union during the three years that I have been engaged unceasingly, in season and out of season, in health and out of health (as one witness, just from England, now present, might testify if he was called on the stand), what I have said will be found condensed in a brief extract from a speech I made in England on the breaking out of the war which I discovered among the papers I have with me at this moment, in Washington. I observed in one of my London speeches:

> "Some leading journals have attempted to defend the right of *secession* from the Union, by maintaining the doctrine of State sovereignty, arguing for the inherent right of a State to secede under the Constitution. Such a right would be an absurdity. The right to secede, as a revolutionary right, is undeniable; but it is the people, the nation, that is to recognize that right, not the sworn servants of the Constitution, which knows nothing of secession. No government provides for its own dissolution; therefore, while there is always a revolutionary right to secede, there can never be a constitutional right to do so. The Constitution prescribes the means for taking the sense of the people, in reference to any organic change. Before the present war broke out, at the suggestion of Kentucky, an offer was made the seceding States to call a National Convention to consider the question of separation, and it would have been competent for that Convention to have allowed South Carolina and her confederate States to retire from the Union, and to establish a government for themselves.
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> "This offer was declined, and nothing, therefore, was left for the President but to uphold the Constitution and enforce the laws which the seceding States had violated. In the war now waging between the States of America, the North is in the *right*, and the South in the *wrong*. The South aims at the overthrow of the government, and the universal establishment of slavery. The sham government which the south has organized has made slavery its vaunted corner-stone; it is a government founded avowedly on the right of enslaving an inferior race. In the cause of the South are united all the elements of injustice, despotism, cruelty, and irreligion. On the part of the North, the war is one for the national existence; for the maintenance of government; for the preservation of the Constitution, devised and founded by the fathers of the Republic; for the supremacy of law, the punishment of treason, and the reintergration of the States.
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> "Looking upon the war as a fact as inevitable and irrepressible; looking at the combatants with reference to their antecedents, their character, and their objects; looking at the results which would follow from a victory to the South, and those which would crown the success of the North; looking, finally, to the great interests of freedom, humanity, and the civilization involved in the struggle, and its issues, the wish and prayer of the enlightened philanthropist must be—GOD SPEED THE NORTH."

Gentlemen, for very many years I have been familiar with the history of your nation, and amongst the warmest admirers of your institutions. Nevertheless, my admiration of your form of government and my exultation in your progress and prosperity, has always been chastened by a fear that your Union was unstable and insecure, and for the reason that that Union was an attempt to embrace in one voluntary political system populations radically diverse in origin and character.

The thirteen colonies, as they existed eighty-eight years ago, were, in many respects, as distinct, the one from the other, as so many European States. Their relations, for ten years subsequent to their independence of the parent country, appears to have been one of an almost purely international character. The articles of confederation, by which the States were held together for the purposes of mutual defence and mutual support, were rather of the nature of a treaty than a bond of perpetual Union. When the fathers of the Republic came together to frame a Constitution, the instrument which they adopted, and which the people ratified, was of the nature of a compromise between the opposing ideas of separate sovereignty and blended nationality.

But there was another and a far more serious compromise—how serious, and how calamitous in its results, let the struggle which is now convulsing this entire country, and deluging its soil with blood, tell. It was a compromise between *freedom* at the North, and *slavery* at the South. Half of the States were wedded to the antiquated, unchristian, and inhuman system of slavery, an institution which identified them with the feudal and barbaric epochs of society; an institution which, none better than those whom I have the honor at this time to address know, has ever since caused the Southern States to remain alien to the institutions, the spirit of progress, and the advancement in civilization of the other sections of the country (applause).

Many reasons have been assigned by the rebels in the South and by their sympathizing friends abroad for that flagitious act by which the integrity of the Union has been for a time dissolved; but Mr. Spratt, of South Carolina, and Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, have told the truth. These gentlemen do not whimper about the tyranny of the North, or talk of tariffs and geographical boundaries. No; Mr. Spratt, the great expounder of the philosophy of Secession, plainly tells the world that the real and the only contest between the North and the South is a contest between *two forms of society;* the one composed of *one* race, the other composed of *two* races; the one having *no slaves*, and the other wholly subsisting upon slavery; the one embodying in its structure the principle that *equality* is the right of man, the other that it is the right of *equals* only; the one expanding upon the horizontal plane of pure democracy, the other taking to itself the *rounded form of a social aristocracy.* Here is the whole secret of the bloody conflict now raging between the North and the South.

"Slavery," says Mr. Spratt, "was within the grasp of the North, and the slaveholding oligarchy, forced to the option of seeing it extinguished *within* the Union, or preserving it by independence *out* of the Union, chose the latter alternative; hence, Secession was the effort of slave society to emancipate itself from the influence and control of the Northern States."

Here, gentlemen, is "the great issue of the time." Here is explained the nature of the present contest between the North and the South (applause). At the very commencement of your nationality you had amongst you an element of discord, destructive of perfect harmony, and tending to disunion and dissolution. It was not possible to secure perpetual union by the blending of two opposite and totally irreconcilable social States. Two distinct and distant stages of civilization could not exist in the same political body, and under one government An attempt to unite the effete institution of slavery—the essence of which is despotism—with the free institutions of the North, was an attempt to bridge the gulf of centuries—to reconcile things in their very nature incompatible—an attempt to secure a solid and perpetual union on principles at war with the organic law which regulates the existence of human society (great applause).

Urged, however, by what was felt at the time to be a political necessity, the people of the thirteen States committed themselves, for better for worse to a common destiny. But there was a fatal compromise of principle at the beginning, and only by a series of humiliating concessions on the part of the North was the bond which kept the several parts of the republic together preserved unbroken for seventy years ("true" and applause).

Allow me to say—it is but the expression of my own opinion—an opinion, however, founded upon a careful and impartial study of your history—that a *real* union of the North and South has never yet existed, and can only be brought into existence through the utter annihilation of the institution which at first presented an insuperable obstacle, if not to a theoretic union, at least to the consolidation of the people on this continent in a homogenous mass [cheers].

Constitutions and forms of government do not *create*, they but simply *express*, the true union of a people. Union, to be genuine, complete and lasting, must be the bond of a common purpose, affection, faith, loyalty, thought, culture, more or less pervading *all*. That there may be a real, perpetual Union, there must be a great *principle* held in common—a *future* to be realized, towards which all shall aspire, and for which all shall labor. The real basis of national existence and permanent cohesion is a basis of *sentiment* and *idea*. It may, for a time, be a common hope of conquest; or a sentiment of loyalty to a chief or sovereign, or dynasty; or a point of deep and earnest religious conviction; or a conscious and deliberate coöperation to effect an object at once noble and expansive. These are all marked characteristics of nationality, and were never exhibited more strongly than in the past history of the States comprising, respectively, the North and the South.

They have been aforetime represented in the ages of barbarian conquest—of feudalism and monarchy—of American colonization, and of constitutional States and Confederacies.

In each of the periods referred to, the bond has been one or the other of those described, and prior to any status law in virtue of which a people became a nation.

There was a time, doubtless, in the history of the United States when something *like* a bond of union, apart altogether from the letter of the Constitution, existed. A feeling of confidence and affection towards the political institutions of the country—a common feeling of reverence for law, and a common understanding and desire—slavery out of view—of the objects for which the Union had been founded; in other words, a general acceptance of what is briefly but most admirably stated in the preamble to the Constitution [applause]. But these bonds of union had been dissolved long previous to the development of that most foul and traitorous conspiracy by which the Constitution was overthrown in various parts of this country, and rebellion raised its head, armed and defiant, and proclaimed its purpose to found an empire based upon the prostration, debasement, and slavery of a portion of the human race, along with personal slavery; the reduction of all, black or white, who labored with their hands for their daily bread to the condition of subordinate supporters of a social aristocracy, whose claim to rank and superiority should be that they possessed herds of human beasts of burden, and lived upon their toils.

The banditti of men-stealers at Richmond, calling themselves the Confederate government [tremendous applause], have declared, through the lips of their Vice-President, that their social fabric was founded upon ideas exactly the *reverse* of those promulgated in the Declaration of Independence; and that they cannot permit themselves to doubt the ultimate success of a full recognition of their principles throughout the civilized and enlightened world. They ruthlessly state that God has, for his own purposes, made one race to differ from another in respect to their natural rights; and, hence, they have rejected the glorious truth upon which your independence was founded—that God has created all men equal—and have made slavery the chief stone of the corner of their new edifice. One of their principal organs has told you, and told you truly, that the present bloody contest is one between *two distinct and irreconcilable forms of civilization;* between the Puritan descendants of the Mayflower immigrants, with their one idea of universal freedom, and the descendants of those who planted slavery in Virginia and Maryland, the Carolinas and Georgia, and who are determined to die in the last ditch [great laughter] in defence of their peculiar institution. This, gentlemen, is the one "great issue of the time." This is the nature of the great conflict—sublime and terrible—of which this continent and your country is at the present moment the scene. The world pauses to behold the grand struggle between the one idea of freedom, and the one idea of slavery! [Applause.] Thank God, the hour of compromise is past [shouts and cheers]. The South—so much of it as is still in rebellion—can plead no constitutional guaranties [cheers], no pledges, no compacts. She stands with one foot upon the Constitution of the United States, and one upon the neck of the negro, brandishing the bloody weapons of treason for the destruction of the national life [cheers].

The North is free! [Cheers.] She stands by the principles of '76; she is animated by the spirit that at once inflamed and guided the fathers of the Revolution [cheers]. Throughout her constitutional history she has stood by every clause which the Constitution contains. For the sake of the Constitution she has stifled her conscience, conquered her prejudices, and sometimes shut up the bowels of her compassion [cheers]. For the sake of the Constitution and the Union she has seen her free citizens immured in the dungeons of Charleston [true], her ambassadors insulted and spurned from Southern territory; her institutions repudiated and reviled, and her best men, when sent to this city, and when sitting even within the shelter of these sacred walls, bludgeoned by the brutal myrmidons of the Slave Power, and threatened with the revolver and the bowie-knife [applause]. But this is past.

Not only is the North awake, but *free!* Always a giant, she was long bound by constitutional cords; but now she is free to put forth her strength. No constitutional obligations fetter her. No three-fifths clause sends members to this House to defeat justice, and give added power to slavery. No rendition clause now prevents her from fulfilling the divine command. The only domestic insurrection the President is now called upon to put down is that which was hatched in the bosom of the Constitution, against which it now directs its poisoned and malignant fangs; and, in this good work, the people of the North are with him, to sustain and aid him, until the entire brood of serpents, copperheads and all, are banished from the soil [great cheering]. Oh! what a glorious opportunity is that which the North now possesses to repair the errors of the past, to do justice to an injured and oppressed race, to carry out, in the fullness of its spirit, and the exactness of its letter, the charter of human rights, written as by inspiration, by the hand of the immortal Jefferson, and to lay the foundations, deep in principles of eternal rectitude and universal liberty, of a Union that shall be perpetual, because it is just, and because it shall not within its wide, yet ever-expanding limits, afford a shelter to a tyrant, or permission to hold a slave [cheers].

> "Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide,
> In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, for the good or evil side;
> Some great cause, God's new Messiah, offering each the bloom or blight,
> Parts the goats upon the left hand, and the sheep upon the right,
> And the choice goes by forever 'twixt that darkness and that light."

The prayer of the friends of human liberty, of progress, and Christian civilization throughout the world, is, that in the present strife between slavery and freedom on these shores, the people and government of this great nation may not halt between two opinions, but come to a decision in favor of absolute, impartial, and universal freedom, for this and all future generations (cheers).

I am happy to know, that in this crisis of the nation's fate, when the future has to be determined by your present action, the people of the United States are represented in the person of their elected Chief Magistrate, by a man so worthy of esteem and confidence as the present incumbent of the Presidential chair (enthusiastic and long-continued applause). A man, not only upright, and honest, but sagacious and far-seeing. A man who six years ago said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand. This government cannot endure permanently, half free and half slave" [applause].

Who declared his own opinion, and that of millions of the American people, when he said, "I do not regard this matter of slavery as a 'very little thing'—this keeping of one-sixth portion of our population in a state of oppression and tyranny, unequalled in the world; neither do the American people—they regard it, not as a very little thing, but as a *vast moral evil*" [applause].

Who said—"If we take exceptions to the Declaration of Independence, which says that all men are equal, where shall we stop? If that declaration is not the truth, let us get the Statute Book, in which it is written, and tear it out. If it is the truth, let us stand by it. Let it be our charter" [applause].

Who said that—"The representatives of the people, gathered within Independence Hall, when they put forth the declaration that all men are born equal and endowed by their Creator with the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, gave a majestic interpretation to the economy of the universe. That it was their lofty, and wise, and noble understanding of the justice of the Creator to his creatures, to all his creatures, to the whole great family of man. In their enlightened belief nothing stamped with the Divine image and likeness was sent into the world to be trodden upon, degraded, or imbruted by their fellow-men. They grasped, not only the race of men then living, but they reached forward and seized upon the furthest posterity. They lighted a beacon to guide their children and their children's children, and the countless myriads that should inhabit the earth through all future ages" [applause].

These were the words of Abraham Lincoln when he stood before the people of Illinois six years ago, seeking at their hands the honorable position of their representative in the Senate chamber of this House. To-night I quote them as the words of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, whose government is represented, and well and ably represented, at the court of every civilized nation on the face of the earth [cheers].

To-day Mr. Lincoln, with the aid of a willing people and a brave and devoted army and navy, has the power to give effect to these solemn and emphatic words; and the expectation and belief of all good men, the hope and prayer of every lover of the human race, are that he will give them effect [cheers], and that as his illustrious and honored predecessor, the first President, was the chief founder of American Independence, he may be known hereafter as the liberator of America from slavery; that Washington and Lincoln may go down to future ages linked in blessings and in fame together, the one the *deliverer*, the other the *regenerator* of his country [immense applause].

> "So shall they both forever rest,
> By all their country's wishes blest.
> When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
> Shall come to deck their hallow'd mould,
> She, then, shall dress a sweeter sod
> Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.
> There, Honor, too, a pilgrim gray,
> Shall come to bless their sacred clay;
> And freedom shall awhile repair
> To dwell a weeping hermit there."

Before I left England, an assembly of my fellow-countrymen, composed of those who had been sharers with me in the humble efforts I had put forth to rectify public sentiment on the American question, were pleased to entertain me at a *soiree*, and to present me with an address. In that address they were partial enough to say that my "labors had greatly helped to set the mind and heart of England wholly and firmly on the side of the free States, fighting for freedom—on the side of Abraham Lincoln, the first President of the American Republic who has ruled in the spirit of the American Declaration—'all men are by nature free and equal.'" The address then goes on to say:

> "Tell him, we pray you, that the people of England honor him for the wisdom, the courage, and the consistency he has displayed (cheers)—that they thank the God who has raised him up to deliver an oppressed people (cheers) —and to purify a polluted commonwealth (cheers). Tell Mr. Seward, and the statesmen of the republic, that England will honor them in proportion as they are faithful to the proclamation of freedom (cheers). Tell the Sumner's and Greeley's to preach by tongue and pen continually—that England will be the firm friend of America, through whatever misunderstanding and estrangement may arise (cheers). Above all, tell Garrison and Phillips (cheers)—the New England Abolitionists—the old guard of the emancipation army—that the mother country holds their services in the warmest remembrance, as the very worthiest offspring of our common ancestry (cheers). These messages you will be free to speak.
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> "We shall look for your return, bearing the trophies of happy victory in a holy war—the glad tidings that the Union has been restored—slavery utterly abolished—and peace and freedom ruling securely, over all the vast domain which oppression tried to wrest by civil war from the possession of the hopes of civilized mankind" (cheers).

This address, save those portions of it which are personal to myself, speaks, I verily believe, the feeling and the sentiments of the great mass of the English people. Within a very few days after receiving it, it was my honor to receive a similar address from a body of my fellow-countrymen, assembled in the City Hall of Manchester, the seat of the vast cotton manufacture of Great Britain. As I am anxious that my countrymen should have an opportunity of speaking for themselves in this, the Hall of Representatives of the United States, and as I am also anxious that the citizens of America should know the views and aspirations of their kinsmen across the water, I will crave permission to add to the extract I have read one from the Manchester address. It says:

> "Within the last three or four years, it may be said, almost literally (with regard to the United States), that a nation has been born again in the cause of freedom [great applause].
>
> "That noble martyr of liberty, John Brown [cheers], the hero of Harper's Ferry [cheers], by his magnanimous devotion and death, sent a thrill of new life to the nation's heart of hearts [cheers]. The moral electricity of that grand human soul not only galvanized the dead bones of social rottenness in the South [laughter and applause], but awakened to new life and to new hope the drooping spirits of the North [cheers]. Had it not been for John Brown's immolation on the altar of liberty and patriotism, honest Abraham Lincoln could not have been President of the Union [cheers], and thus be enabled to become the second deliverer of the nation [cheers]. And had not Mr. Lincoln been elected, the cause of negro emancipation would have gone backward, probably, for half a century. ['So!" and applause]. It was the time and crisis of the nation's utmost social, political, and moral need, and the providence of God, blessing the efforts of good men, raised up a man who had a heart, a conscience, and a soul above the tricks of politicians and the subtleties of diplomacy [cheers].
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> "George Washington, nearly eighty-three years since, gave the American nation the boon of independence. In one day Abraham Lincoln has conferred a more inestimable blessing, by proclaiming the Federal nation the home of impartial and universal freedom.
>
> "It is true that the great work of the present day is not fully and finally accomplished; but the foundation is laid, the whole edifice is rising in grandeur, and the glad day is near at hand when the top-stones shall be placed in its pinnacles and domes, amid the jubilation, not only of four million of the redeemed race, but the plaudits of every free nation throughout the world" [cheers].

And now, ladies and gentlemen, that your time and my strength are alike exhausted, what can I say in the way of a brief conclusion to the address I have been permitted to deliver in the Hall of Representatives of the United States Capitol? A Hall, in which have been heard the voices of Clay and Randolph, of Calhoun and Webster, of Adams and Giddings, and a host of others, who have taken part in the stirring debates to which the passing topics of the day have given rise. A Hall in which have been passed, within the last three years, so many measures tending to the abolition of that great evil which, while it has been the chief source of your troubles at home, has lessened the respect to which this mighty nation is most justly entitled abroad. In the name of the British people, I here tender you thanks and gratitude for purifying the district in which this Capitol stands from slavery; for saving the vast territory of the North-west from the curse of that baleful institution; for recognizing the independence and nationality of those black republics which have been founded by men who once were slaves; for joining with Great Britain in efforts to suppress the African slave trade; for sanctioning, and seeking to give effect to the President's proclamation of freedom; for calling into the field, as your auxiliaries and comrades, those who were so recently slaves or outcasts, but who are now so bravely fighting your battles and their own, for the suppression of a foul rebellion, the restoration of your beloved Union, and the establishment of universal liberty. While I thank you for these measures, suffer me also to express my earnest hope that you will add to those great measures that which at this moment is under discussion in these halls, namely, an amendment of your Constitution, providing that "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, shall exist in the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." Do this; extirpate from the soil of this country every vestige of the anti-republican, unchristian and inhuman system of slavery;—proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof—so shall you restore a union that shall be durable, because it is just, and, because founded on righteousness, shall secure the admiration and esteem of mankind, and the favor and blessing of Almighty God.

Mr. Thompson resumed his seat amid loud and long-continued applause.

THE LIBERATION AND RESTORATION OF THE SOUTH.

[Extracts from a speech delivered by Hon. J. M. ASHLEY in the House of Representatives of the United States on the 20th day of April, 1864.]

MR. SPEAKER: The hour has come in which Congress must deal with the great crime of the nineteenth century. The leading conspirators must be punished by punishments commensurate with their terrible deeds. Every loyal citizen of the United States will expect this of those to whom they have at this time confided the destinies of the nation. They will demand that this great crime be so dealt with that the government shall obtain "indemnity for the past and security for the future." As one of the Representatives of the loyal people of Ohio, I demanded at the beginning of the rebellion, and I demand now, that it shall be so dealt with that a like crime from the same cause shall in the future be impossible.

The proper disposition by Congress of the causes which produced the rebellion, and all questions intimately connected with it, have given me, as they doubtless have given every loyal man, great anxiety.

The question before us is, how shall the States, whose governments have been usurped or overthrown, be reëstablished and their loyal citizens be reinvested with all the rights, privileges and immunities of citizens of free States in the American Union.

Gentlemen have asked, with an air of apparent gravity, "when did these States cease to exist? Was it on the passage of their secession ordinances? If not, at what precise period of time did they cease to be States, and get out of the Union?" I answer that the territory and people constituting the State have not and cannot "get out of the Union," as gentlemen are pleased to term it; that is, they cannot withdraw themselves and the territory of the State from the constitutional jurisdiction of the National government, except by successful revolution; but when a majority of the electors of any State, in compliance with the spirit and forms of their organic or statute law, change their State Constitutions and governments, and renounce their obedience to the National Constitution, their State governments cease from that very hour. Gentlemen must remember that this is not a rebellion on the part of the majority, or indeed any part of the people of the rebel States, against the constituted authorities and former recognized governments of those States, but a rebellion on the part of the constituted authorities, and a majority of the people of those States, against the government of the United States. If it were a rebellion of a minority, or even of a majority of the people of those States, against their old State government and constituted authorities, as well as a rebellion against the National government, the old State governments would remain, if their Constitutions had not been abolished, and their constituted authorities had remained loyal; but their State governments would be in abeyance, while the rebel insurgents held possession of the State. The Constitutions and governments of all the rebel States, however, having been changed or abolished in the manner prescribed in the organic or statute laws of said States by the will of a constitutional majority of their qualified electors, surely no lawyer will claim that a legal State Constitution and government exists in any of those States, such as can be recognized by Congress or any department of the National government. When such a change of their Constitutions and governments was effected, their constitutional relations to the National government ceased. They then ceased to be States of this Union as political organizations, invested by the Constitution and laws of the United States, with part of the governing power of the Republic, but the territory and people remain as before, legally subject to the laws and Constitution of the United States.

If this theory be not the true one, then all that the conspirators in Congress from the rebel States needed to have done and all they need do in case of another rebellion is to remain in the Senate and House, and insist that the States which they represent, though waging war against the National government to destroy it, are still States, endowed with part of the sovereign power of the country, and that as representatives from these States, they have the constitutional right to retain their seats as part of the governing power of the country.

Sir, if the conspirators and rebel chiefs could have known that a doctrine so fatal as this to our very existence as a nation, would have been seriously maintained by loyal men in the midst of this great rebellion; if they could have known that men claiming to be statesmen, would assert as a principle that "a State, *once a State, is always a State,*" and that the minority of its citizens had the constitutional right to send full delegations of Senators and Representatives to Congress, though a majority with the constituted authorities of the State, were in rebellion against the National government; if they could have been made to believe that the Thirty-Seventh Congress would have insisted that this minority in any of the rebel States, without an organized civil government, recognized by Congress, had the right to fill these Halls with their Representatives, on condition of swearing fealty to the government, without regard to the number of their constituency so that they ranged anywhere from *ten* to *one* or *two* hundred professedly loyal voters for each member of Congress: I say, if the conspirators and rebel chiefs could have anticipated all this, they would doubtless have materially changed their programme, and every vacant chair in Congress would have been filled from the outbreak of the rebellion to this hour, with the open or secret enemies of the government, all laboring for its destruction.

Mr. Speaker, I know, and alas, we all know, too well, that Southern statesmen, for the past thirty years, have had good reason to be familiar with the stupidity of Northern Representatives in Congress; but, sir, I venture the assertion that no Southern man, in the maddest hour of his passionate contempt for the North, ever conceived that Northern men would be guilty of the stupidity of claiming to-day, that South Carolina, or any other rebel State, has a State government in existence, which entitles it under the National Constitution, to exercise part of the governing power of this nation. Gentlemen may insist as long and pertinaciously as they please, that States cannot dissolve their political relations to the National government, and that when they are once States, they are always States. The fact that States, with the approval of a majority of their citizens, have abolished their State Constitutions, renounced their allegiance to the National Constitution, and made war upon the National government to destroy it, is as notorious as the fact that our armies are engaged in putting down the rebellion. I hold that no act of rebellion and levying war on the part of the constituted authorities of a State, and no ordinance of secession passed by a State Legislature or a convention in any State, with the approval of every elector in it, can legally or constitutionally affect the rightful jurisdiction of the National government over the people and territory of such State, but such ordinances of secession and acts of rebellion and levying war on the part of the constituted authorities of said State, sustained by a majority of its citizens, destroys, as a matter of fact, the political organization known and recognized as a State by the National Constitution, and no State thus in rebellion can maintain constitutional relations to the General government, until it is reorganized by the loyal people, subject to and in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States. Before they are thus reorganized, and until Congress recognizes them as States, and admits their Senators and Representatives, the governing power heretofore lodged in them as political organizations, having, by their acts of treason and rebellion, lapsed, remains in the people of the States which are faithful to the National Constitution.

I might fortify my position still further if it were necessary, by showing that both the Executive and Legislative branches of the government have, by their repeated acts, recognized the fact, that the old constitutional State governments were destroyed or had been abolished in all the so-called seceded States. There are many clever theories on this subject, one is that these State Constitutions and governments still exist, notwithstanding they have been abolished by the action of their citizens, and the new State governments are at war with the National government. This legal crotchet possesses the minds of some gentlemen who insist that the old Constitutions and governments still remain, because the action of the majority is illegal, and therefore null and void. To this I interpose the stern fact that a majority of the legal electors have abolished their State governments, and that there are no Governors, Judges or Legislators recognized by the National Constitution in those States, that, therefore, those States, as political organizations, are dead. Gentlemen may parade before us the ghosts of these dead States, and call them living and palpable, but they are no more States with Constitutions and laws which can be recognized by Congress, than the artificial ghosts which are used to illustrate the drama are the ghosts of departed saints or sinners. The State organization, with its Governors, Judges, and legislators, and its written Constitution, is gone. Philosophically speaking, perhaps, as Mr. Brownson suggests in the January number of his *Quarterly*, there must be, with every people, sufficiently numerous and intelligent to maintain a Republican government, an unwritten, before there can be a written Constitution, and in this sense a Constitution may be said to exist in every State. But all the rebel States have written Constitutions. They may not now faithfully reflect the unwritten Constitution of the people in the rebel States. We shall see how that is when they come to act under the provisions of this bill, in reorganizing their State governments, and making another written Constitution. If the action of the constituted authorities of the rebel States sustained by a majority of their electors, in abolishing their State Constitutions and governments, has not changed the legal relations of these States to the United States, then the National government has no legal cause of complaint against these States. The *fact* is, however, despite all theories, that the constitutional relations of these States to the National government are changed, and there is not a day passes in which this stern fact is not in some way acknowledged by every department and officer of the government.

Mr. Speaker, I do not claim that this bill is perfect. Under the circumstances, however, I believe it is the best we can get. I do not think it safe, beyond question, to authorize the organization of State governments, when only one-tenth of the electors are loyal to the United States. I admit that this provision was in the bill introduced by me in the early part of the present session. I incorporated it in the bill to make it harmonize with the President's suggestion, and not because it had the sanction of my own judgment. As a member of the Committee, charged with the subject of providing for the reorganization of constitutional State governments by the loyal citizens in the rebel States, I have sought to secure the best bill I possibly could. It is not all I could desire, but I do not intend to offer any amendments to it, but if an amendment is offered, increasing the number of loyal electors required to organize a State government, I shall feel obliged to vote for it. I believe the democratic idea the better one, that the *majority* and not the *minority* ought to be invested with the organization and government of a State. Certainly it is safer to entrust a State government to the maintenance of a *majority* than to *one tenth* claiming to be loyal, while *nine-tenths* are openly disloyal.

In answer to many objections which have been urged by distinguished gentlemen, who have written me on the subject of the *ten per cent.* basis, I will say, that the loyal *one-tenth* are to represent all the inhabitants, loyal and disloyal, in the States, that representation in Congress is not based upon the number of *electors* or loyal citizens in any State, but upon the whole number of inhabitants. Formerly in the South, *three-fifths* of all the slaves were included in their enumeration. Since the emancipation of the slaves, the three-fifths representation clause in the Constitution is practically abolished, and each emancipated slave will hereafter be enumerated as an inhabitant. So that there is no injustice to the North, in allowing the old representation in Congress from the rebel States. That part of the population known as the *two*-fifths free and slave, not counted in the enumeration will now be added, and two-fifths of four million will probably exceed the number of whites, killed or driven from the Southern States. If we should undertake to apportion Representatives in Congress from the several States upon the number of loyal electors, we should find, I fear, a number of districts in the North quite as disloyal as many in the South.

I believe that the safety of the government, and justice to loyal men, demand that we should put the entire authority of reconstructing new State governments in the rebel States into the hands of loyal men, and none others. If it is deemed safe to entrust ten per cent. of the number of electors in each State in 1860 with this power and responsibility so be it. If we invest them with this power, they must represent at the ballot-box, and in all the offices, State and National, the entire population of those States, loyal and disloyal, including all the colored inhabitants.

Mr. Speaker, if we would avoid all possible complications, and the danger of another conspiracy and rebellion, let us provide, before this Congress adjourns, by law, for the reëstabl

gress, and not to the President or to any General charged by him with the execution of military orders. I desire the House and the country to understand that, by silence, we sanction every assumption of doubtful constitutional power by any department or officer of the government. The dominant party in Congress ought to remember that it is making history, and will be held responsible in history for every dangerous precedent established with its consent. It ought not to be forgotten that every act of the Executive and Congress becomes a precedent, to be revived hereafter if occasion offers, by those who shall then be charged with the administration of the government. I may be deemed over-anxious on this subject. But, sir, I know the power of example, and I much prefer that the President and every officer appointed by him shall do no act, unless clearly authorized by the Constitution, or by act of Congress.

I prefer that before any doubtful constitutional power is exercised by the President or any officer of the government, the question shall be submitted to Congress for its decision and advice. I think we ought to demand the establishment of this rule, and insist on its strict observance by the President and every department of the government. However ready we may be as partisans to apologize for or justify the assumption of doubtful constitutional power by those endowed by us with authority; as a Representative, I am unwilling that the President of my own choice, or any officer of his appointment, should exercise any power which I would condemn if exercised by a political opponent.

Mr. Speaker, I have the most unlimited confidence in the President. His patriotism no man can doubt who knows him as well as I do. That he does not intend to assume any of the prerogatives of Congress I know. He is the last man in the world whom I would suspect of using unwarranted power for personal or selfish ends. And precisely here is the danger. We have no fear, because we who know him confide implicitly in his honesty of purpose, and believe that he intends every act for the public good. But we ought not to forget, Mr. Speaker, that the precedents, which every Department of this government are now making, may be used hereafter by ambitious and bad men for very different purposes. The safe way is the better way. And that is for every Department of the government, to keep strictly within the limits prescribed for it by the Constitution and laws of the United States. Many gentlemen seem to act as though the President, during the continuance of the war, could assume the entire war power of the government, and that our functions as Representatives were suspended until the close of the war, except to act as mere recording scribes. I protest against such an assumption, and against that silence which might be interpreted into an assent to it. It is true that the President of the United States is made, by the Constitution, Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, and in that capacity he may issue such orders, to the officers and men, as he may deem proper to accomplish the *military* object sought by Congress when declaring or recognizing war, but legally he can issue such orders *for no other purpose*. In addition to this, every order must be in strict conformity with those rules and articles of war, which have been, or may be enacted by Congress, or with the well known laws of war as recognized by civilized nations. The President can make no new rule or article of war. That, sir, is a prerogative which belongs to Congress alone. The idea which I wish to impress upon the minds of gentlemen is this, that Congress by the express terms of the Constitution, is invested with the war-making power of the Nation. Whatever rules and articles of war it adopts must be enforced. Whatever it declares shall not be done, as an act of war, cannot properly be done.

The President, in time of war, is authorized to do many acts by virtue of the power vested in him by the Constitution as Commander-in-Chief; by the rules and articles of war enacted by Congress, and by the laws of war recognized by civilized nations, which he cannot do as a civil Chief Magistrate. As a civil Chief Magistrate, he cannot confiscate property or emancipate slaves by proclamation. But in time of war, by the laws of war, as Commander-in-Chief he may confiscate enemies' property and emancipate all slaves. He may govern the country which he conquers by martial law, until Congress shall otherwise direct. But I have failed to find any power conferred by the Constitution, or by the rules and articles of war, or by the laws of war, authorizing the President to establish, without the direction of Congress, civil State governments over conquered territory, or to reorganize new State governments, or to prescribe what kind of Constitutions the loyal citizens should adopt, before he will recognize them as States restored to the Union.

I believe this entire power is vested by the Constitution in Congress, and not in the President. Congress is not only the war-making but the law-making power of the country. In time of war and in time of peace, Congress must exercise the sovereign power of the country, or there is no safety for the future of this Nation and for Republican institutions.

Mr. Speaker, I do not object so much to some things which have been done, or the objects sought to be accomplished, as I do to the manner in which they have been done. I do not intend quietly to permit the President or any head of a Department, or any General in charge of an army, to assume the legislative functions of the government. A great question, such as the one before us, of the organization and restoration of States to civil life, and power, with free Constitutions, cannot safely be entrusted to any power but Congress. And, sir, that is where the Constitution has placed it. In addition to this, sir, I object to any effort at forestalling the action of Congress by the military power. I object to precipitating great civil questions, of the magnitude and importance of this, upon the people of the rebel States, before the loyal resident citizens are prepared to meet them, and are properly organized to insure success. I object to it, because, whether the reconstructed State governments are satisfactory or not to the unconditional Union men of those States or of Congress, as the Representatives of the Nation we are placed in a position where we must either refuse to recognize the States so reorganized, and recognized by the military authorities in command, as the constitutional governments of such States, or we must quietly submit to the assumption of authority by the military power and by the Executive Department of the government, which belongs alone to Congress.

THE MIGHTY CHANGE.

WASHINGTON, April 8, 1864.

THE scene on Wednesday evening, when the English Abolitionist, George Thompson, spoke against slavery, should have been photographed by Brady. It would have made a picture worthy of being displayed in every loyal house. What Mr. Thompson said was precisely what I expected; and it was strongly and gracefully said. He is a polished, well-poised, and collected talker—not so profound and thorough, probably, as might have been anticipated, but full of his subject, and believing in his own views—capable of doing immense good. It was easy to realize how a man, with such a voice and such a presence, could affect the working-people of England. When he entered the hall of the House, which was illuminated with that brilliant, yet soft and hazy radiance that always excites the delight of those who see it for the first time, and enables every one to observe without effort all objects within range of the individual vision, the band played "Hail to the Chief who in Triumph Advances." He was accompanied by Vice-President Hamlin, who acted as chairman, and succeeded by the President, who came in unattended and took a seat directly in front of the Speaker. There were only two members of the Cabinet present—Mr. Chase, of the Treasury, and Mr. Usher, of the Interior. Thaddeus Stevens sat near the President, surrounded by a number of the old anti-slavery chiefs. Very many of the Senators and Representatives were present. The hall was full, with the exception of the gallery on the left of the Speaker. Mr. Thompson was much affected by the reception. All orators are actors, but I think his trepidation was natural. For was he not asked to speak in a Capitol which, for more than thirty years, had almost re-echoed the sound of the slave-driver's lash? And asked, too, to do this by some of the most eminent of our public men, many of whom had, in other days, bitterly hated and denounced him. He stood withing hearing of the old hall, covered by the same roof, in which all the great minds of the Republic, in the era which succeeded the Revolution, had contended for their respective theories. Within two minutes' walk was the former Senate Chamber, now the Supreme Court room, in which Sumner, for words spoken in debate against human slavery, was struck down and horribly injured by one of the gladiators of that slavery. On his right was the portrait of Washington, on his left that of Lafayette; over his head floated the purified flag of our country, and directly before him was the clock, marking, with its inevitable pulsations, the doom of human servitude. Is it any wonder that he should have been overwelmed by these reminiscences? But Mr. Thompson is an artist. After his brief introduction, he noticed the resolution of Mr. Morris, of the House, offered on Monday, which charged him with having said, in 1834, "that the dissolution of the Union was the object to be kept steadily in view." He said that he had written no such letter, and more, he never entertained any such sentiments, and he had never written to any man in a slave State: he defied the proof. He then stated that he had addressed a letter to Mr. Morris, calling his attention to his resolution, and demanding an explanation, but up to that moment had received no reply. These words were hardly uttered before a note was handed to him from the audience, signed by Mr. Morris, giving the alleged and now proved to be forged letter to John A. Murrill, of Tennessee, as his authority. It now turns out that this Murrill was the notorious thief, murderer, and land-pirate, who was confined, for one offence alone, ten years in the Tennessee penitentiary. Out of this false charge, from which so much was expected by the Copperheads, shame has come upon them, and new honors upon Mr. Thompson. It is difficult to describe the manner of the latter, as he refuted and trampled it under foot, on Wednesday evening. Before Mr Thompson arrived, Joseph Holt, of Kentucky, one of the purest and most conscientious statesmen of our country, and for many years a Democratic leader, quietly came in and took a seat in the audience; and in the midst of that address Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland, advanced along the aisle. He listened attentively to the orator, and at the close of his address came forward and congratulated him.—*Washington Correspondence of The Philadelphia Press.*

National Anti-Slavery Standard.

WITHOUT CONCEALMENT—WITHOUT COMPROMISE.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1864.

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

THE Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY will be held in the Church of the Puritans (Rev. Dr. Cheever's), in the city of New York, on TUESDAY, May 10th, commencing at 10 o'clock, a.m.

The Society will hold another public meeting on WEDNESDAY evening, May 11th, in the Cooper Institute, commencing at 7½ o'clock. The names of the speakers will be announced hereafter.

The business meetings of the Society will be held in the Lecture Room of the Church of the Puritans, on Tuesday evening, 7½ o'clock, and on Wednesday forenoon, at 10, a.m.

Cheering as it is to know that the government stands irrevocably pledged to the liberation of more than three-fourths of the slave population of the United States, by the Proclamation of Emancipation of Jan. 1, 1863—that the remaining portion of the slave system in the Border States is rapidly dissolving by the enlistment and consequent freedom of such slaves within their limits as are capable of bearing arms in the service of the country, and by a growing conviction that it is useless to attempt any longer to resist the mighty tide of Anti-Slavery sentiment which is hourly deepening and widening in every direction, especially in the aforesaid States—and that the experiment of emancipation, under the war power, and at every possible disadvantage in the midst of an unparalleled national convulsion, is thus far eminently successful—there still remains much to be done by the Abolitionists, in the way of labor and testimony, to secure full and complete justice for the colored race, both at the hands of the government and with reference to the reconstruction of society on the basis of political equality in the rebellious States. Let the approaching anniversary, therefore, be well attended by the tried men and women whose purpose it still is to continue the great moral struggle until before the Constitution and laws all are made free, and complexional distinctions are unknown.

In behalf of the Executive Committee,
WM. LLOYD GARRISON, President.

WENDELL PHILLIPS, CHARLES C. BURLEIGH, } Secretaries.

ADVICE TO REPUBLICAN POLITICIANS.

WE presume that none of our readers failed to read, ponder and inwardly digest the facts contained in Maj. Stearns's letter in our last issue. If not, we advise them to look up the paper and read the letter over again. Not for any pleasure it will give them, certainly—for it relates to one of the most disgraceful chapters in our history—the most disgraceful, perhaps, of the portion relating to this rebellion. But it is the duty of every Abolitionist to know the facts as to the treatment of the black men whom the government has made nominally free and whom they have invited to enlist in their cause. The Administration begun the work of putting down the rebellion avowedly with the expectation of doing so without any justice at all to the Negro, bond or free. As the Negro would persistently thrust himself across the path of the nation, so that he could not entirely be winked out of sight, the science of Republican statesmanship has seemed to be to learn with how little justice towards him the work of saving the country could be done. Of the first of these endeavors we shall not complain. We suppose that men taking office under oath to observe the Constitution were obliged to try and keep the parts of it designed for the preservation of slavery, if it could be done without the destruction of the whole. But events having shown that this could not be done, and that the President must elect between the constitutional rights of slaveholders in open insurrection and those of all the rest of the inhabitants, and he having proclaimed liberty to the slaves of all such, and having invited all, and compelled some, to take up arms in defence of the nation of which he is the head, we submit that the national faith pledged virtually to all and actually to many, should have been kept. We think that he should not have permitted his fellow-citizens of Kentucky to sell as slaves men whom he had made free, when taken as they were passing through that favorite State. And we are quite sure that the promises of the officers appointed to recruit the black regiments should have been kept to the letter where such promises were authorized, and in the spirit where the enlistments were made in the faith that their pay and bounty should be the same as those of their white fellow-soldiers.

Now we do not propose to read the Republican leaders a moral sermon on this text. If they need to be convinced on these points, they are beyond the power of our persuasion. We would merely give them a little practical advice. We would not interfere in the least with their moral and spiritual welfare—merely, for their own good, in regard to their political future. Personally, we care nothing about their success. All we ask of any party is to do justice to the slaves and to the free people of color, and we will applaud and sustain to the utmost of our moderate abilities and influence whoever seems most likely to promote that justice. This we do, first, as Abolitionists, that being the main end for which we have labored for more than a generation of human life—and, secondly, as American citizens, desirous of securing the blessings of impartial liberty and equal justice to ourselves and our posterity. These two things we believe to be indissolubly bound up the one with the other. The liberties of the white man, as the history of the last sixty years has shown, cannot be had in their just fullness as long as the liberties of the black man are denied to him. Out of this conflict between White and Black liberty has grown this civil war, and both are to be established or both destroyed by the issue of it. Now, certainly, no party deserves to succeed at the next election who does not accept this truth and make it the inspiring principle of their campaign, and, we believe, that the Republican party, at least, cannot prevail unless it does so. Now we presume it will not be denied that the Republican party, as a general thing, expect to prevail through the nomination of Mr. Lincoln, and by means of the weight of his name and the *prestige* of his measures. We have no objection to this, as Abolitionists, provided it be made clear by his acts that he makes absolute justice to the negro, bond and free, an essential element of his creed, made manifest by his works. But we think we can tell him and his friends that he can prevail in no other way and that the time for manifesting his faith by his works is growing shorter day by day.

We presume it will not be denied that the Radicals among the Republicans hold the balance of power in the party. Nobody can be elected President, of that party, without their coöperation, though a candidate may possibly be selected in convention not of their choice. We do not believe that the Radicals would organize an opposition to Mr. Lincoln, supposing him to be nominated, at the great risk of the election of the Copperhead candidate, if the objections they have to what he has done and what he has omitted to do be obviated by speedy action. Some of these objections we will state—not affirming that they are all, or any of them well-founded, but only that they are urged against him. They say that after the manner of all his predecessors as soon as he was fairly in the White House he began to devise how to secure a second term. With this end in view, he permitted the grossest pro-slavery abuses on the part of his generals, while he revoked the proclamations of Gen. Fremont and Gen. Hunter, by which they had abolished Slavery in their Departments. By this act, they say, he made slaves again of hundreds of thousands of men as free as himself. For, if John Quincy Adams's doctrine be good law—on which the whole process of emancipation by military necessity rests—the general in the field is the person authorized to make such proclamation. If the President disapprove the act, he may recal, suspend or dismiss the officer, as a punishment, but he may not make slaves again of freemen. Then they aver that he recalled Fremont just as he was ready, and as sure as one can be of anything human, of sweeping the rebels out of the South-west and opening the Mississippi River. And also that he took Butler away from New Orleans in the height of his success and replaced him by Banks, who has been undoing all his work, governing in the interests of the slaveholders, who are scarcely disguised rebels, and putting matters in such a shape that slavery may be easily reëstablished at the end of the war. These acts they attribute to his wish to remove dangerous rivals out of his way. To his proclamation of Emancipation they object that it freed slaves beyond his power and kept them slaves within it, while he employed all his political influence in the Border States to prevent them from abolishing slavery by law, especially in Missouri. And to his Amnesty, that it was directly contrary to Acts of Congress and an unwarrantable assumption of power, and that it was a bounty to perjury and opened the door of Congress to rebels who were willing to forswear themselves, and at the same time throwing his Emancipation proclamation to the tender mercies of the Supreme Court. The Defeat which McClellan had so skilfully organized on the Potomac, they affirm he has been carefully kept in repair for electioneering purposes. The treatment of the black troops and of the freedmen we have already spoken of, and the absolute absence of decent legislation on the part of the present Congress they lay at his door. "Can anyone doubt," say they, "that a word from the palace would have secured the Repeal of the Fugitive Slave law, the Abolition of Slavery everywhere, full justice to the Negro troops and all other righteous measures which were proposed during the first week but have come to nothing in more than four months?"

Now we do not intend to discuss the truth or falsehood of these charges or of the defences that are made for any of them. All our purpose is answered if it be admitted that these are a portion of the counts in the indictment found by the Radicals against the President. That they are urged and with great force and with increasing effect none know better than the warmest friends of Mr. Lincoln. Now, we are no partisan of his or of any other man. We wish only to see a man in power who will use it for the utter extirpation of slavery. And if the Democrats will accept this necessity of our national future and elect a man who will carry it out, we shall rejoice in his election as truly as in that of any possible Republican. But, still, we will give the Republicans good counsel. You may nominate Mr. Lincoln, possibly, without satisfying the Radicals; but you cannot elect him. Another candidate will inevitably be run unless he puts himself *rectus in curia*—right before the tribunal of the North. Victory and Justice are the two essentials of his success. Let the dastardly baseness of his Administration towards the black troops be abandoned and they be treated as are their white companions in arms. Let the infamous Fugitive Slave law be repealed, the neglect to do which is affirmed, we trust falsely, to be due to the knowledge the President would veto it. Let Slavery be abolished everywhere, by law and by Constitutional Amendment. Let these things, and all things incident to them be done and done with all their might by the President and his party, and they will do more to disarm their Radical adversaries than by any amount of intimidation or cajolery. If they do not this, or something near it, they will find that the late State elections are no sure forerunners of that next November. At any rate, they can deserve success, if they fail to gain it—and that is more than can be said for them, as matters now stand.

NATIONAL WELCOME TO GEORGE THOMPSON IN WASHINGTON.

Editorial Correspondence of The Standard.

WASHINGTON, April 6, 1864.

I WITNESSED this evening in the National Capitol a scene that marks an era in American history—a scene so grand in itself, so honorable to our beloved country, and so cheering to the friends of impartial freedom, that I cannot sleep before making an attempt to describe it for the readers of THE STANDARD. I allude, of course, to the welcome accorded to our beloved friend, George Thompson, the eloquent and distinguished champion of the American cause in England, by an immense assembly of people, convened in the Hall of the House of Representatives, representing every loyal State in the Union, and embracing the President, and Vice-President of the United States, several members of the Cabinet, the Speaker of the House, and a majority of the Senators and Representatives in Congress. It may be said with truth that our country has "conquered her prejudices" at last! The man whom, a few years since, she scorned and banished for his devotion to liberty, she last night welcomed and honored as the faithful champion of her cause, the brave defender of her national life.

Every seat in the vast hall was filled, which is the more remarkable when it is remembered that the price of admission to the floor was $1, to the gallery 50 cents. The faces of the multitude, as revealed in the soft but brilliant light that fell from the lofty ceiling, presented a grand and imposing spectacle. Nothing is more inspiring than a "sea of upturned faces," glowing with intellectual excitement, and waiting eagerly for words of truth and eloquence to stir the soul to noble action. I have witnessed many such scenes, but never one that impressed and thrilled me so much as this.

Before entering the Hall, and while waiting in the Speaker's Room, Mr. Thompson was introduced to the President of the United States, who received him with great cordiality, and bade him welcome to the country and to the Capital.

Mr. Thompson entered the Hall from the Speaker's Room, escorted by Vice-President Hamlin, and the venerable John Pierpont, who this month completed his eightieth year, but looks as hale as a young man of sixty! Their appearance was the signal for an outburst of applause so unanimous and hearty as to leave no doubt as to the temper of the audience. President Lincoln, accompanied by the President *pro tem.* of the Senate (the Hon. Solomon Foote of Vt.), entered immediately after Mr. Thompson, and both gentlemen took seats reserved for them directly in front of the desk. When the cheers had subsided, a fine band, sent for the purpose by Gen. Benham, played a patriotic air, upon the conclusion of which Mr. Pierpont rose and said that, as Senators and members of the House of Representatives had united with the Washington Lecture Association in extending their invitation to the distinguished gentleman who was to address the meeting, it seemed proper to impress the meeting with a national character—the more so as the House of Representatives had granted the use of their Hall for the occasion. The Association had therefore asked the Vice-President of the United States to preside over the meeting and introduce the distinguished speaker.

The Vice-President, on taking the chair, was greeted with hearty applause. In a few well chosen words he performed the duty assigned him, introducing Mr. Thompson as a man of world-wide reputation for philanthropy and eloquence, whose name would live in history with those of Clarkson and Wilberforce. In the name of the vast assembly before him, in the name of all loyal men in this broad land—aye, in the name of Liberty herself—he welcomed George Thompson—a loyal American, though a British subject—to this Temple of our Government. The words of cheer that he would speak would find a ready and a willing echo in the hearts of those present.

Mr. Thompson, on rising, was greeted with cheers, loud and long continued. At first he seemed to be very much embarrassed by the complimentary allusions that had been made to him and by the very remarkable circumstances in which he was placed. His voice at first was somewhat feeble, but it soon became so strong as to reach the remotest parts of the hall. The greater portion of his speech was written, but it was delivered with all the freedom, energy and fire of an extemporaneous effort. After a most appropriate and feeling exordium, he remarked that, before proceeding with the observations which he intended to make, he was constrained to notice a circumstance which occurred in the House of Representatives on Monday. He alluded to a resolution, introduced by Mr. Morris of Ohio, to rescind the resolution previously passed, granting the use of the Representatives' Hall for the delivery of his (Mr. T.'s) address. The preamble to Mr. Morris's resolution was in these words: "Whereas, George Thompson, of England, in March, 1834, declared that the dissolution of this Union should be steadily kept in view." Mr. Thompson read a note which he had addressed to Mr. Morris, denying the truth of this charge, and calling upon him to give his authority therefor. To this note, said Mr. T., Mr. Morris has, down to this moment, favored me with no reply. At this point a note was handed to the speaker, which proved to be from Mr. Morris, in which that gentleman stated that his accusation was founded upon a letter purporting to have been written by Mr. T. and embodied in a speech of Mr. Sherrard Clemens, printed some years since in the Congressional *Globe*. A synopsis of the speech and the letter was also printed in the first volume of *The Rebellion Record*. Mr. Thompson pronounced the letter a forgery, and deliberately challenged and defied the bitterest enemy of the American cause to find in all his speeches and writings anything that would justify an imputation of unfriendliness to the Union. He read a brief extract from one of his speeches, delivered just after the Rebellion broke out, embodying his sentiments respecting the Union, wherein he showed that it could be constitutionally dissolved only by a national convention regularly called.

Having set this matter to rest, Mr. Thompson proceeded with his address, of which, as it will be printed in THE STANDARD, I shall not attempt to give a complete synopsis. It is enough to say that he attributed the bloody struggle in which the nation is now engaged to slavery and the compromises incorporated in the Constitution for its protection; and that he endeavored to impress his hearers with the great truth, that the Rebellion can be put down and the Union established only by the utter extermination of slavery. "Thank God," he exclaimed, "the hour of compromise is past." In response to this declaration the whole audience broke forth in loud applause, and it was some time before the speaker was able to proceed. Resuming, he expressed his happiness in knowing that in this crisis of the nation's fate the people of the United States are represented, in the person of their elected Chief Magistrate, by a man so worthy of esteem and confidence as the present incumbent of the Presidential chair. This sentiment again was loudly cheered. Mr. Thompson quoted some striking passages from the speeches delivered at different times by the President—passages containing the noblest sentiments of liberty; and now, said Mr. T., he has the power to give effect to his solemn and emphatic words; and the expectation and belief of all good men, the hope and prayer of every lover of the human race, are that he will give them effect, and that, as his illustrious predecessor, the first President, was the chief founder of American independence, he may be known hereafter as the liberator of America from slavery; that Washington and Lincoln may go down to future ages linked in blessings and in fame together, the one the *deliverer*, the other the *regenerator* of his country. At this point again the audience cheered with great enthusiasm. Mr. Thompson then proceeded to read extracts from addresses adopted by several popular meetings in England, wherein he was charged with messages of sympathy and encouragement to the President of the United States and those associated with him in administering the government. One of these extracts contained this sentence: "Above all, tell Garrison and Phillips—the New England Abolitionists—the old guard of the Emancipation army—that the mother country holds their services in the warmest remembrance, as the very worthiest offspring of our common ancestry." The names of Garrison and Phillips had no sooner passed the speaker's lips than the whole vast audience began to cheer with such vehemence that he was compelled to pause in the midst of the sentence, and when at length he was permitted to finish it, the applause was at once renewed, showing that these leaders of the Anti-Slavery movement are "not without honor" in the high places of the nation. The name of "that noble martyr of liberty, John Brown, the hero of Harper's Ferry," occurring in one of the passages read by Mr. Thompson, was also applauded with a unanimity and enthusiasm such as are rarely witnessed in a popular assembly; and this in the Capitol of the nation, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, in the presence of a majority of the members of both branches of Congress—nay, with many of them actually participating in the outburst of popular feeling! Imagine, if you can, the emotions of an old Abolitionist in witnessing such a scene! It seemed more like a dream than a reality; and yet, thank God! it was *not* a dream, but history! The whole assembly cheered again, with uncontrollable enthusiasm, when Mr. Thompson characterized the rebel government as "the banditti of men-stealers at Richmond." This is the very Hall where that banditti were so lately the masters!

Mr. Thompson's address, alike in matter and manner, was admirably suited to the occasion and made a very happy impression. When it was concluded, a large number of the most distinguished gentlemen present, including the President, the Speaker of the House, and many Senators and Representatives in Congress, pressed forward to offer him their congratulations and bid him welcome to the country and its Capital. Among those who sought an introduction was the Hon. Reverdy Johnson of Maryland, not long since the inveterate opponent of Abolition and one of the counsel on the pro-slavery side in the Dred Scott case, but now the advocate of an amendment to the Constitution forever prohibiting slavery!

April 7.—This morning Mr. Thompson, in company with Rev. John Pierpont and Lewis Clephane, Esq., of this city, called at the White House, in compliance with the President's kind invitation. The interview was brief but very satisfactory. The President spoke with much feeling of the trials of his position, and declared, with evident sincerity, that he had endeavored to do his duty in the awful struggle in which the nation is involved. He invited Mr. Thompson and his friends to the room in the White House in which Mr. Carpenter, a New York artist, is at work upon an historical picture, "The First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation." Having finished his studies of the separate figures, Mr. Carpenter is now engaged in the work of grouping them upon his large canvas. As yet it is only in outline, but the design is happy, and if the artist is successful in working it out, he will make a picture creditable to American art, and worthy of the event it is intended to commemorate.

Mr. Thompson also paid his respects, successively, to the Secretary of War, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of the Treasury, by all of whom he was received with the utmost respect and cordiality. Want of time alone prevented him from visiting the other members of the Cabinet. He afterwards visited the Capitol, and was invited by Mr. Wilson of Massachusetts to the floor of the Senate, where he was introduced to many members of that body. The Vice President left the chair to greet him. He also visited the House of Representatives, where he was introduced to many of the members, and spent some time in pleasant conversation. He afterwards dined with the Secretary of State, and in the evening attended a reception at the house of Lewis Clephane, Esq., where a large number of distinguished gentlemen came to greet him. I may add that Mr. Thompson and his travelling companion have been very hospitably entertained by Mr. Clephane and his excellent family, and that his and their polite attentions have done much to make our visit agreeable.

MR. THOMPSON'S MOVEMENTS.

Mr. Thompson, on his way from Washington to the North, stopped at Wilmington, Delaware, where, on Friday evening, the 8th inst., he delivered an anti-slavery lecture before a large and highly intelligent audience, making a very happy impression upon all who heard him. On Saturday he went from Wilmington by private conveyance to spent the Sunday among the Progressive Friends at Longwood, by whom he was very cordially received. He attended their regular Sunday meeting, and made a very eloquent address. The severe storm hindered from attending many who greatly desired to be present. On Monday morning Mr. Thompson went to Philadelphia, and in the evening attended a social and informal meeting of the Loyal League, at their Club House in Chestnut street. He was introduced to the gentlemen present by Hon. Horace Binney, Jr., who spoke a few words of welcome, to which Mr. Thompson responded in a brief but exceedingly happy address. On Tuesday evening he addressed a large audience in Newark, N. J.

On Friday evening of the present week he will speak at Elmira, N. Y.; on Tuesday evening next in Syracuse, and on Wednesday evening at Auburn. After that he will speak in Rochester, and perhaps also at Oswego and Utica.

LETTER FROM TEACHERS OF THE FREEDMEN.

FRIEND JOHNSON: I last night received letters from Mrs. Jacobs and her daughter, who you know are employed by the Society of Friends in New York to teach the emancipated slaves in the region of Alexandria, Virginia. I send you extracts from their letters, because I am sure your readers will feel gratified, as I do, to see these two highly intelligent women laboring so zealously and faithfully for the good of their long-oppressed people; and also because the account they give of the conduct of the freedmen is so cheering to the friends, who are praying and laboring for their growth in knowledge, and virtue, and worldly comfort.

L. MARIA CHILD.

ALEXANDRIA, March 26, 1864.

DEAR MRS. CHILD: When I went to the North, last Fall, the Freedmen here were building a school-house, and I expected it would have been finished by the time I returned. But when we arrived, we found it uncompleted. Their funds had got exhausted, and the work was at a stand-still for several weeks. This was a disappointment; but the time did not hang idle on our hands, I assure you. We went round visiting the new homes of the Freedmen, which now dot the landscape, built with their first earnings as free laborers. Within the last eight months seven hundred little cabins have been built, containing from two to four rooms. The average cost was from one hundred to two hundred and fifty dollars. In building school-houses or shelters for the old and decrepid, they have received but little assistance. They have had to struggle along and help themselves as they could. But though this has been discouraging, at times, it teaches them self reliance; and that is good for them, as it is for everybody. We have over seven thousand colored refugees in this place, and, including the hospitals, less than four hundred rations are given out. This shows that they are willing to earn their own way, and generally capable of it. Indeed, when I look back on the condition in which I first found them, and compare it with their condition now, I am convinced they are not so far behind other races as some people represent them. The two rooms we occupy were given to me by the Military Governor, to be appropriated to the use of decrepid women, when we leave them.

When we went round visiting the homes of these people, we found much to commend them for. Many of them showed marks of industry, neatness, and natural refinement. In others, chaos reigned supreme. There was nothing about them to indicate the presence of a wifely wife, or a motherly mother. They bore abundant marks of the half-barbarous, miserable condition of Slavery, from which the inmates had lately come. It made me sad to see their shiftlessness and discomfort; but I was hopeful for the future. The consciousness of working for themselves, and of having a character to gain, will inspire them with energy and enterprise, and a higher civilization will gradually come.

Children abounded in these cabins. They peeped out from every nook and corner. Many of them were extremely pretty and bright-looking. Some had features and complexions purely Anglo-Saxon; showing plainly enough the slaveholder's horror of amalgamation. Some smiled upon us, and were very ready to be friends. Others regarded us with shy, suspicious looks, as is apt to be the case with children who have had a cramped childhood. But they all wanted to accept our invitation to go to school, and so did all the parents for them.

In the course of our rounds, we visited a settlement which had received no name. We suggested to the settlers that it would be proper to name it for some champion of Liberty. We told them of the Hon. Chas. Sumner, whose large heart and great mind had for years been devoted to the cause of the poor slaves. We told how violent and cruel slaveholders had nearly murdered him for standing up so manfully in defence of Freedom. His claim to their gratitude was at once recognized, and the settlement was called Sumnerville.

Before we came here, a white lady, from Chelsea, Mass., was laboring as a missionary among the Refugees; and a white teacher, sent by the Educational Commission of Boston, accompanied us. One of the freedmen, whose cabin consisted of two rooms, gave it up to us for our school. We soon found that the clamor of little voices begging for admittance far exceeded the narrow limits of this establishment.

Friends at the North had given us some articles left from one of the Fairs. To these we added what we could, and got up a little Fair here, to help them in the completion of the school-house. By this means we raised one hundred and fifty dollars, and they were much gratified by the result. With the completion of the school-house our field of labor widened, and we were joyful over the prospect of extended usefulness. But some difficulties occurred, as there always do in the settlement of such affairs. A question arose whether the white teachers or the colored teachers should be superintendents. The freedmen had built the school-house for their children, and were Trustees of the school. So, after some discussion, it was decided that it would be best for them to hold a meeting, and settle the question for themselves. I wish you could have been at that meeting. Most of the people were slaves, until quite recently, but they talked sensibly, and I assure you that they put the question to vote in quite parliamentary style. The result was a decision that the colored teachers should have charge of the school. We were gratified by this result, because our sympathies are closely linked with our oppressed race. These people, born and bred in slavery, had always been so accustomed to look upon the white race as their natural superiors and masters, that we had some doubts whether they could easily throw off the habit; and the fact of their giving preference to colored teachers, as managers of the establishment, seemed to us to indicate that even their brief possession of freedom had begun to inspire them with respect for their race.

On the 11th of January we opened school in the new school-house, with seventy-five scholars. Now, we have two hundred and twenty-five. Slavery has not crushed out the animal spirits of these children. Fun lurks in the corners of their eyes, dimples their mouths, tingles at their fingers' ends, and is, like a torpedo, ready to explode at the slightest touch. The war-spirit has a powerful hold upon them. No one turns the other cheek for a second blow. But they evince a generous nature. They never allow an older and stronger scholar to impose upon a younger and weaker one; and when they happen to have any little delicacies, they are very ready to share them with others. The task of regulating them is by no means an easy one; but we put heart, mind, and strength freely into the work, and only regret that we have not more physical strength. Their ardent desire to learn is very encouraging, and the improvement they make consoles us for many trials. You would be astonished at the progress many of them have made in this short time. Many who less than three months ago scarcely knew the A. B. C. are now reading and spelling in words of two or three syllables. When I look at these bright little boys, I often wonder whether there is not some Frederick Douglass among them, destined to do honor to his race in the future. No one can predict, now-a-days, how rapidly the wheels of progress will move on.

There is also an evening-school here, chiefly consisting of adults and largely attended; but with that I am not connected.

On the 10th of this month, there was considerable excitement here. The bells were rung in honor of the vote to abolish slavery in Virginia. Many did not know what was the cause of such a demonstration. Some thought it was an alarm of fire; others supposed the rebels had made a raid, and were marching down King st. We were, at first, inclined to the latter opinion; for, looking up that street we saw a company of the most woe-begone looking horsemen. It was raining hard, and some of them had dismounted, leading their poor jaded skeletons of horses. We soon learned that they were a portion of Kilpatrick's cavalry, on their way to Culpepper. Poor fellows! they had had a weary tramp, and must still tramp on, through mud and rain, till they reached their journey's end. What hopeless despondency would take possession of our hearts, if we looked only on the suffering occasioned by this war, and not on the good already accomplished, and the still grander results shadowed forth in the future. The slowly-moving ambulance often passes by, with low beat of the drum, as the soldiers convey some comrade to his last resting-place. Buried on strange soil, far away from mother, wife, and children! Poor fellows! But they die the death of brave men in a noble cause. The Soldier's Burying Ground here is well cared for, and is a beautiful place.

How nobly are the colored soldiers fighting and dying in the cause of Freedom! Our hearts are proud of the manhood they evince, in spite of the indignities heaped upon them. They are kept constantly on fatigue duty, digging trenches, and unloading vessels. Look at the Massachusetts Fifty-Fourth! Every man of them a hero! marching so boldly and steadily to victory or death, for the freedom of their race, and the salvation of their country! *Their* country! It makes my blood run warm to think how that country treats her colored sons, even the bravest and the best. If merit deserves reward, surely the 54th regiment is worthy of shoulder-straps. I have lately heard, from a friend in Boston, that the rank of second-lieutenant has been conferred. I am thankful there is a beginning. I am full of hope for the future. A Power mightier than man is guiding this revolution; and though justice moves slowly, it will come at last. The American people will outlive this mean prejudice against complexion. Sooner or later, they will learn that "a man's a man for a' that."

We went to the wharf last Tuesday, to welcome the emigrants returned from Hayti. It was a bitter cold day, the snow was falling, and they were barefooted and bareheaded, with scarcely rags enough to cover them. They were put in wagons and carried to Green Heights. We did what we could for them. I went to see them next day, and found that three had died during the night. I was grieved for their hard lot; but I comforted myself with the idea that this would put an end to colonization projects. They are eight miles from here, but I shall go to see them again to-morrow. I hope to obtain among them some recruits for the Massachusetts Cavalry. I am trying to help Mr. Downing and Mr. Remond; not for money, but because I want to do all I can to strengthen the hands of those who are battling for Freedom.

Thank you for your letter. I wish you could have seen the happy group of faces round me, at our little Fair, while I read it to them. The memory of the grateful hearts I have found among these freed men and women, will cheer me all my life.

Yours truly, H. JACOBS and L. JACOBS.

MR. THOMPSON IN PHILADELPHIA.

THE following account of Mr. THOMPSON's reception in the Quaker City was unavoidably omitted last week, but will still be read with interest:

PHILADELPHIA, April 5th, 1864.

To the Editor of The National Anti-Slavery Standard.

The Meeting held last evening, for the reception of GEORGE THOMPSON in Philadelphia, was a brilliant success. Our large Opera House was well filled with an enthusiastic audience, who seemed eager to make the *amende honorable* to their English guest. Horace Binney, Jr., Esq., took the chair; and in his speech, introducing Mr. Thompson, read the preamble to the Act abolishing slavery in Pennsylvania, passed March 1st, 1780. Of this preamble he said, "We have banished it from our digest, and it is only to be found in the statute books themselves. Its authorship has been matter of historical dispute, but there is but one opinion as to its merits."

Mr. Binney closed his introductory speech in the following language:

"As an Englishman, who, true to his own love of justice, has helped to breast the storm of strange prejudice which has prevailed in some high quarters against us in our present struggle, we owe Mr. Thompson the sincerest gratitude, and here in this house, where we lately listened with applause to Henry Ward Beecher's account of his own most kindly reception in England, we have double pleasure in extending the welcome.

When Mr. Thompson shall make his next visit to the United States, should he contemplate a return, we trust that he will find this great nation united as one man, and that man, like the restored demoniac in the Gospel, sitting, with the demons of slavery expelled, clothed, and in his right mind, at the feet of the world's Great Maker."

Mr. Thompson, on rising to address the assembly, was welcomed with thunders of applause, long continued, and heartily renewed. I will not attempt to give even a synopsis of his address. It not merely excited the admiration of the audience, it deeply moved their hearts. Its most radical utterances elicited the loudest applause. The mention of the names of Bright and Cobden awakened the responses of the audience, as if those names were household words in Philadelphia. The contrasts which the orator sketched between the condition of this country at the time of his first visit, and its present condition, were rapturously applauded. Indeed, one might have thought that the vast audience were Abolitionists of thirty years' standing; and, verily, I think a large portion of them, in their enthusiasm, believed that they were. Not all,

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, April 10, 1864.

THE visit of George Thompson to Washington is the most important event of the week, unless possibly I except the vote of the Senate, 37 to 6 in favor of the amendment to the Constitution abolishing slavery, or rather prohibiting it. Mr. Thompson must have been deeply gratified with the cordiality of his reception here, I am sure. Not because he looked upon it as a personal ovation, but because it was such convincing evidence of the feeling of the leading men of the country, at present in Washington, towards the genuine anti slavery people of England. The most cordial feeling was manifested towards Mr. Thompson in every quarter. I heard no talk against him while he was here in any circle, in any clique. The Opposition members of Congress even did not venture to do more than to vote for Mr. Morris's resolution. Poor Mr. Morris! Since the good-natured "notice" given to his resolution by Mr. Thompson, he has not been heard from in the House or out of it. In the most Conservative government circles Mr. Thompson was received as one of the nation's best friends, and his views on the question of slavery have not been criticized but most cordially approved. The lecture was a grand effort for freedom and the slave. One of the ablest members of Congress who heard it said to me, "I have heard all our great orators, and I think that there were passages in his lecture which surpass anything I ever heard before." But this remark may deceive some of my readers and lead to disappointment hereafter. The common people may not regard Mr. Thompson as a great orator. They will rather look upon him as a man able to make a powerful argument. His higher flights, his noblest passages, will not be fully appreciated by men of ordinary intellect. At such times he speaks to the select few rather than to the multitude. This is my impression, but I may mistake. The calls upon the President and the members of the Cabinet which Mr. Thompson made were exceedingly pleasant. His reception, I hear, was more than courteous—it was extremely cordial. On Thursday evening a number of Mr. Thompson's friends and admirers called upon him at Mr. Clephane's, and the evening was spent in pleasant conversation, and late in the evening, in the enjoyment of a bountiful repast. Mr. Thompson was the guest of Collector Clephane while he was in Washington; and the complete success of his visit here is due in a great measure to the admirable manner in which Mr. Clephane made his arrangements. It is a pleasant additional fact, which I feel at liberty to state, that the lecture was a pecuniary advantage to the Lecture Association here, as well as to the distinguished orator. But I need not enlarge upon the subject, for, Mr. Editor, have we not had you with us as Mr. Thompson's companion? To you the readers of THE STANDARD should look for a history of Mr. Thompson's trip Southward from New York.

The Senate has voted by a great majority to amend the Constitution. The result was unexpectedly decided—37 to 6. Anything like this in the House will ensure a reference of the whole question to the people of the United States. Several magnificent speeches were made in support of the joint resolution in the course of the debate, and I think the best were by men who are unaccustomed to making anti-slavery speeches. An argument in favor of freedom from the lips of Sumner, Wilson, Hale, Harlan, Trumbull, or any of the long-tried friends of the slave, is not a novelty, nor is it a particular pleasure to hear them speak on the old subject. But when Mr. Henderson of Missouri or Mr. Johnson of Maryland argues in favor of extinguishing slavery, root and branch, it is a strange luxury to listen. We have not heard such men before plead for universal freedom. Such facts assure one that the progress of public sentiment in reference to slavery keeps pace with the war. When the war ends slavery will be dead. It looks so at this moment certainly. I judge from many things I hear that the President is greatly in favor of the new movement against slavery, and the whole power of the Administration will be brought to bear—in a legitimate manner of course—in favor of the proposed amendment. The fact is, that the advance of the people on this great question is so rapid that if the President were a downright Conservative he could not lag behind. The tide will carry him onward, and his intimate friends assert that this is what he likes—that he waits for the people. This has been his policy in the past.

The Presidential question is in a lull. I hear little about the claims of candidates for the nomination. Mr. Lincoln's friends are doing nothing—I suppose because they feel confident of his nomination. Mr. Chase seems to be laid aside—for the present. There is some talk about Gen. Fremont, but it amounts to nothing.

The feeling in favor of a postponement of the National Convention is gathering strength, but it is doubtful whether it will succeed with the National Committee. The President has made very ardent friends on the National Committee, and they are obstinately opposed to any postponement.

There was a very wholesome debate upon treason and traitors in the house on Friday and Saturday. Mr. Long of Ohio was the occasion of the excitement. He made the first speech in Congress in favor of recognizing the rebels as a nation. The moral effect abroad will be against us, and it is suspected by many persons that this was intended to be the result of the movement. Mr. Colfax, the Speaker, did himself great honor by leaving his chair and coming down upon the floor and asserting his rights as a member of the House by offering a resolution for the expulsion of Mr. Long. The American people I think will estimate Mr. Colfax more highly than ever before for this brave act of his. It shows that he possesses *pluck*—that most valuable quality which too many Republicans in and out of Congress lack. I verily believe that we have honorable, dignified members of the Senate who would hesitate to expel Saulsbury if he were to propose three cheers for Jeff. Davis and the rebel cause in open Senate. They seem to fear anything savoring of manliness or of boldness. This criticism, however, will apply to but few of them.

It would seem as if the government could find little fault with France were she to recognize the rebel States as an independent nation to-morrow, if such speeches as those of Long and Harris are to go unrebuked in the American Congress. Harris made a worse speech yesterday than Long did on Friday. The two men are rebels without a doubt, though Long is like an honorable enemy who is willing to pledge himself that he will give no material "aid and comfort" to his Southern friends. It remains a fact, however, that his speech will do more for the rebels in Europe and on their own soil, than would a dozen regiments of armed men. Freedom of debate is a very desirable thing; but if Gen. Burnside could with propriety exile Vallandigham for discussing the issues growing out of the war, before the people of Ohio, certainly the House of Representatives can expel a member who openly declares in favor of the Southern Confederacy.

AVON.

CIRCULATE THE EMANCIPATION PETITION!

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

The undersigned, citizens of ——— believing Slavery the great cause of the present rebellion, and an institution fatal to the life of Republican government, earnestly pray your honorable bodies to immediately abolish it throughout the United States; and to adopt measures for so amending the Constitution as forever to prohibit its existence in any portion of our common country.

The above form of petition, it will be observed, is identical with that lately sent out by the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society. It is now requested that all copies thereof, from whomsoever received, should be, as soon as signed and completed, returned to the care of Miss S. B. ANTHONY, 20 Cooper Institute, New York, from which office they will be duly forwarded to Congress. *Let all help* this very important and essential work.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—A fortnight ago we stated the fact that the wife of Louis Napoleon, our City Carrier, had been robbed of $300, the fruit of much hard toil, and invited contributions toward making up his loss. In response to our appeal, we have received the following sums:

R. H. Manning, Brooklyn,	$15 00
Gerrit Smith, Peterboro,	10 00
George B. Lincoln, Brooklyn,	5 00
Mrs. S. C. Dimond, "	3 00
J. E. Smith, Glastenburg, Ct.,	5 00
Sophia M. Child, " "	1 00
Martha Smith, Plainfield, Ct.,	2 00

Our Boston Correspondence.

BOSTON, April 11th, 1864.

WE are paying, I suppose, in this March-like April, for the remarkably mild weather of last Winter. I write in the midst of a storm, the culmination of ten days of chilly North-east winds, with two inches of snow saturated with rain on the ground. And perhaps your situation is no better. Alas for those of our soldiers who have either to march, or only to "stand and wait," in such wet above and mud below.

You have heard, of course, of the Great Music Hall Organ of Boston. But if you suppose that the hub of the universe has only one Great Organ, you are very greatly in error. We have two instruments of that class, each better than the other, if the claims made by the friends of each can be trusted. The second (in order of time) is of domestic manufacture, built by the veteran Hook, of this city, expressely for the Church of the Immaculate Conception. This Church, you must understand, represents not the old Immaculate Conception, but the new one; having been built and dedicated in honor of the dogma invented by the present Pope, and made by him an essential portion of the Roman Catholic faith—the immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary. It is the largest and handsomest church in the city, and so, no doubt, deserves the best organ, which it is now claimed to possess.

This instrument does not pretend to compete with the Music Hall Organ in external gorgeousness; but in purity and beauty of tone, which after all is the main point, very competent judges consider it superior. It has already given, to the full satisfaction of musical connoisseurs, several of the great masterpieces of the music of the Catholic church. The last of these was Mozart's famous Requiem, performed at the funeral of Mr. Andrew Carney, a wealthy, benevolent and devout member of that church, and performed with true feeling and expression, as well as with the highest mechanical skill.

The proprietors of the Music Hall have thus far been successful in the series of high-priced concerts by which they are paying the cost of their elephant. The advent of their organ has checked, for a time, the progress which we were making towards the excellent German custom of giving a worthy rendering of the very best music at a moderate price; so that this high enjoyment and refining influence could be shared by the poor as well as the rich. But the lapse of a year or so will restore the proper equilibrium, and the owners of the music-monster will find it better to show him at a moderate price than have their hall left vacant.

The Twenty-eighth Congregational Society of Boston, who for so many years occupied the Music Hall on Sundays, but who do not choose to pay the exorbitant price at present demanded for it, have just taken a lease of the Melodeon, a hall smaller than they wish, but in other respects more convenient for their Sunday services than any other now vacant. They will put it in complete order for this purpose, and let it, during the week days and evenings, for occupancy as a concert-room, for scientific or other lectures, or for the holding of religious or reformatory meetings, for all which purposes it is well adapted.

It may well be supposed that this Society did not at once find a person such as they wished to put in the place so long and so worthily filled by Theodore Parker. Through the years that have passed since his departure, the Standing Committee have constantly supplied the pulpit with the best accessible talent and wisdom. They have had, by turns, the best of the clergy, orthodox and heterodox, and discourses from the wisest and most eloquent laymen. The result is, as they think, that the average of their preaching has been *far* higher, whether judged by an intellectual, a moral, or a religious standard, than that of any other pulpit in Boston. The special pastoral relation, however, remains unfilled, and they have always proposed to fill it when the right man should appear.

A few months ago, they invited Rev. Robert Collyer of Chicago to be their minister. The conflict between the attractions of this call and the ties of affection which bound him to his Western parish was so strong, that he gave the matter a prolonged consideration, but finally decided to remain in Chicago. By a curious coincidence, the discourse delivered by Wendell Phillips before the 28th Society on Sunday morning, immediately preceding the parish meeting at which Mr. Collyer's letter of declinature was read, was founded on the present position of the Society, and gave a most instructive detail of its advantages as well as its duties. His ground, briefly stated, was that the central idea of American civilization (not clearly recognized, but actually operative from the first), was that man could be trusted; and that God gave him, with the power of thought, the duty to think. He understood the object of this organization to be to receive truth from any quarter, and to seek it in all directions, believing the common heart of humanity to be the best teacher. The existence of an organization here, accustomed to hold this ground, and determined still to hold it, he thought was the last, best fruit of the civilization of New England. Free comparison of ideas, he said, is God's Normal School for intellectual progress. And it is through the influence of such toleration and comparison that New England is the firmest of peoples, and the most progressive in all good things.

I understand that the Twenty-eighth Congregational Society have now under consideration two highly gifted classical gentlemen as possible candidates for the pastorate. If the right man do not yet appear, they can at least go on quietly in their accustomed way; and they have the satisfaction of finding that this method, besides feeding their own minds and souls, attracts the best and most cultured minds in the community, belonging to other religious connections, to hear from time to time the lay or clerical preacher officiating at the Melodeon.

Since I have touched upon one extreme of theological and ecclesiastical position, it may be well to give a glance at the other.

"He hung a bottle on each side,
To keep his balance true."

We have in Boston, the great centre of New England Congregationalism, two Presbyterian churches, the very types of old-fogyism; men who believe so thoroughly in the doctrine that "the old is better," that the only inconsistency of their position is in adopting Christianity as their faith, instead of one of the religions that preceded it. Who do you think has just been invited by one of these Churches to be its minister? No other than a renegade New Englander, a degenerate son of Massachusetts, Rev. Edward P. Humphrey, who, for a quarter of a century past, has chosen to live among slaveholders in Kentucky, and who has always made himself acceptable to them, at first as a parish minister, and of late years as Professor in Danville Theological Seminary. What sort of teaching in religion and morality is to be expected of such a man? In regard to slavery, however, he is the genuine son of his father, Rev. Dr. Heman Humphrey, late President of Amherst College, who made vehement resistance to all movements of the students of that institution in aid of the abolition of slavery, as long as he remained in it.

One of our most popular and best situated hotels, the Winthrop House, was utterly destroyed by fire a few nights ago. It stood on Tremont street, corner of Boylston street, fronting the southern end of the Common, and near the Public Library. Being six stories high, and taking fire at the top, it was at first out of reach of the fire-extinguishing apparatus, and the flames thus obtained such headway that no portion of the building could be saved. In the morning it was an empty shell, the roofless walls still standing entire. The danger of their fall interrupted the passage of the Metropolitan rail-cars through Boylston Street for a few days, but the threatening portion is now removed.

The Winthrop House was originally formed by the enlargment and transformation of three large and handsome private dwelling houses. It will be remembered by many of your readers that, in consequence of an inveterate habit of the United States' Court in Boston to use its Court-house as a slave-pen, that body was refused any longer occupancy of the Boston Court-house, and was obliged to find quarters elsewhere. A private house in Bowdoin Square was at first hired for a Court-house, and afterwards the stone building at the corner of Temple Place, long known as the Masonic Temple, was bought by the United States for this purpose. The Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Massachusetts, after selling the Temple, bought the Winthrop House estate, and, leaving a portion of it for occupancy as a Hotel, fitted up the remainder in the manner required for Masonic purposes. The portion thus reserved consisted of three large halls, with the necessary ante-rooms, three armories for the encampments of Knights Templars, a large Banquet Hall, and smaller apartments, in all amounting to thirty, for the grand functionaries, high, low and intermediate, of the Grand Lodge, and for storing the "regalia" (so called) and the greater and lesser mysteries of the craft. These, with their contents, old and new, representing a very large expenditure of money, were entirely destroyed by the fire. It is thought that the Grand Lodge will rebuild on the same spot, and perhaps use the whole of the new premises for Masonic purposes. This will probably suit them better than to build, according to Cowper's suggestion—"a lodge in some vast wilderness."

The money thus far raised through this city for the sufferers in East Tennessee, has reached the sum of $82,600.

News has just reached us of the death, in Philadelphia, of William D. Ticknor, senior partner of the well known publishing house of Ticknor and Fields. He was distinguished for successful enterprise in business.

The Free City Hospital of Boston, a large and fine structure on Harrison Avenue, fronting Worcester street, is understood to be nearly ready for occupancy.

The Courier of this morning publishes in full the traitorous speech of Hon. Alexander Long of Ohio, and thinks that "The cheek of every American ought to burn with shame at the announcement that President Lincoln, Secretaries Chase and Usher, attended the lecture of George Thompson, the English Abolitionist and agitator, in the Hall of the House of Representatives." Poor *Courier!* Matters will be worse, in his way of viewing them, before they are better.

NORTH.

SUBSCRIPTION TESTIMONIAL TO GEORGE THOMPSON.

From The Liberator of April 8.

IT will be seen by the following Circular, signed by the Governor of the State, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and other eminent citizens, that it is proposed to raise a Subscription Testimonial, to be presented to George Thompson, Esq., in grateful recognition of the eminent service he has rendered the whole country, since the rebellion broke out, by his indefatigable efforts in England to defeat the plots of rebel sympathizers and emissaries, and preserve amicable relations between the two countries. The proposition is highly creditable to all parties; and if carried out, as it should be, and we trust will be, on a handsome and generous scale, it will prove of international interest and value—increasing the number of our trans-Atlantic friends, and cheering them by a substantial proof of the liberty-loving purpose of those who are upholding the government and its flag.

The Circular having been, as yet, sent only to a few individuals—and being such as makes its appeal to all loyal and patriotic men on the distinct basis of eminent and disinterested service done the government, without prompting or thought of even a vote of thanks—it is deemed proper that it should be given the fullest publicity, through the loyal press of the country (and they are respectfully requested to copy it in full, or give the substance of it to their readers), so that not only the personal and intimate friends of Mr. Thompson may be apprised of this laudable effort, but also all loyal men and women who may delight in this manner to testify their respect and gratitude.

It is not intended to appropriate the money that may be raised to the buying of a service of plate, or anything of the kind; but it is to be invested in the best possible manner for the benefit of Mr. Thompson in his advancing years, and of his family, by the responsible Trustees whose names are given (than whom three better men cannot be found in the Commonwealth)—and who will be happy to receive whatever donations, from the smallest to the largest sums (the more that participate, the better), those who approve the object may feel able to give.

If this testimonial should be favorably regarded by the various Union Leagues in the country, and their coöperation secured, "many hands" would indeed "make light work," and a munificent sum be raised worthy of the republic, and world-wide in its benefi cent and liberty-inspiring influence.

CIRCULAR.

At a period when the North seemed to have but few friends in England—when the efforts of secessionists and those in their interest threatened to disturb the peace of the two countries, GEORGE THOMPSON devoted himself to the noble work of dispelling the delusion caused by misrepresentation and falsehood, and of convincing the liberal and the laboring classes of Europe that our cause is identified with their own.

He travelled through England, addressing large and respectable audiences, placing facts before the people, and explaining the real nature of the issue between the North and the South.

Without fee or reward he has labored to prevent misunderstanding between the nations, and has thus contributed to preserve the peace of the world.

It has been said of him that "he never turned his back on a good cause, or put his hand to a bad one."

As a recognition of these valuable services, it is proposed that a fund be raised and placed in the hands of John M. Forbes, Samuel E. Sewall, and John H Stephenson, as Trustees, to be by them appropriated, at their discretion, for a testimonial worthy the man and the cause.

Subscriptions for the above object may be sent to JOHN M. FORBES, 36 City Exchange; SAMUEL E. SEWALL, 46 Washington street; or JOHN H. STEPHENSON, 12 Arch street.

JOHN A. ANDREW,	F. W. BIRD,
JOEL HAYDEN,	WILLIAM B. ROGERS,
J. E. FIELD,	GEORGE S. HALE,
ALEX. H. BULLOCK,	S. G. WARD,
	ERASTUS HOPKINS.

Boston, Feb. 26, 1864.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S LOYAL NATIONAL LEAGUE.

THE Anniversary of the Women's National League will be held in New York, Thursday, May 12th, at 10 o'clock, at the Church of the Puritans, on Union Square.

Representatives from auxiliary Leagues and women who believe in a Democratic form of government are invited to attend.

The work of the hour is not alone to put down rebels in arms, but to EDUCATE THIRTY MILLION INTO THE IDEA OF A TRUE REPUBLIC. Hence every influence and power that both man and woman can bring to bear, will be needed in the reconstruction of the nation, on the basis of Justice and Equality.

As the educators of future statesmen, heroes and martyrs, it is the duty of women to inform themselves on all questions of national life, that they may infuse into the politics of the nation a purer morality and religion.

This revolution has thrown on woman new responsibilities, and awakened in her new powers and aspirations, no longer to be expended, as now, in mere surface work, but to be developed into broader, deeper, and higher range of thought and action than has yet been realized.

The nation's destiny now trembles in the balance, and waits the electric word that shall rouse the Women of the Republic to make themselves a POWER FOR FREEDOM in the coming Presidential Campaign.

That all our sacrifices of wealth, and ease, and home, and the blood of our first born may not have been in vain, let us, earnest and heroic through suffering, now make haste to pronounce the doom of Slavery, and ring the death-knell of Caste and Class throughout the land.

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, President.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY, CHARLOTTE B. WILBOUR, } Secretaries.

ANNA E. DICKINSON will deliver a lecture at the Cooper Institute on Tuesday evening next, the anniversary of the Battle of Lexington and of the massacre of Massachusetts soldiers in Baltimore. Her subject is thus announced:

LEXINGTON, 1775. } APRIL NINETEENTH, { BALTIMORE, 1861.

No reserved seats. Tickets 50 cents; for sale (on and after SATURDAY MORNING) at Tousey's, No. 121 Nassau st.; Fowler and Wells's, No. 308 Broadway; Miller's, No. 522 Broadway; Miller and Matthews's, No. 757 Broadway; Macfarland's, corner of Broadway and 23d street.

Platform tickets sold only at The Anti-Slavery Office, No. 48 Beekman st.

Doors open at 7; lecture at 8 o'clock.

We are requested to state that Miss Dickinson will deliver a lecture on "Reconstruction," in the Academy of Music, in Philadelphia, next Thursday evening.

Proceedings of Congress.

IT is a pleasing coincidence, that the Senate passed to its third reading the joint resolution for an anti-slavery amendment of the Constitution the same day on which Mr. Thompson spoke in the Capitol. It is to the everlasting credit of that body that on Friday, April 8, it passed this resolution by a vote of 38 to 6. So much has been effected by long days of frothing on the part of the champions of the tottering system. The following is the glorious resolution:

Be it resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, two-thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the said Constitution, namely:

ART. XIII.—Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

We place on record the Yeas and Nays, for the honor of the former and the deep disgrace of the latter:

Yeas—Messrs. Anthony, Brown, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Conness, Cowan, Dixon, Doolittle, Fessenden, Foot, Foster, Grimes, Hale, Harding, Harlan, Harris, Henderson, Howard, Howe, Johnson, Lane (Ind.), Lane (Kansas), Morgan, Morrill, Nesmith, Pomeroy, Ramsey, Sherman, Sprague, Sumner, Ten Eyck, Trumbull, Van Winkle, Wade, Wilkinson, Wiley, and Wilson.

Nays—Messrs. Davis, Hendricks, McDougall, Powell, Riddle, Saulsbury.

A novelty in our American legislation is the bill introduced to the House from the Select Committee on the subject, by Mr. Pendleton (Dem.) of Ohio, which provides:

That the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of the Interior, the Attorney-General and the Postmaster-General shall be entitled to occupy seats on the floor of the House of Representatives, with the right to participate in debate upon matters relating to the business connected with their respective departments, under such rules as may be prescribed by the House.

The bill further provides that the said Secretaries, the Attorney-General and Postmaster-General shall attend the sessions of the House of Representatives immediately on the opening of the sittings on Mondays and Thursdays of each week, to give information in reply to the questions which may be propounded to them under the rules of the House.

The National Banking Bill was defeated in the House on the same day, April 6th, having been so transformed by amendment as to become unsatisfactory to its author. On motion of Thaddeus Stevens, it was laid on the table by a vote of 89 to 44.

In the Senate on Thursday, Mr. Saulsbury, of Delaware, gave vent to the following:

Resolved, That the Chaplain of the Senate be requested hereafter to pray and supplicate Almighty God in our behalf, and not to lecture him, informing him, under pretence of prayer, of his, said Chaplain's, opinion, in reference to His duty as the Almighty; and that the said Chaplain be further requested, as aforesaid, not under the form of prayer to lecture the Senate in relation to questions before the body.

He will find that there is no peace for the wicked.

In the House on Friday, the 8th, Mr. Long (Dem.) of Ohio indulged in an hour's speech in which he contended that the Confederates are an independent Power *de facto*, and declared:

"If the Democratic party were now in power they could not restore the Union of the States. There were only two questions—first, the recognition of the Confederacy; and second, the continuation of the war for the subjugation of the South. Of the two he preferred the former. He believed the Democratic party were for peace, and would be placed in a false position if they nominated a war candidate."

This was too much for the endurance of the Speaker, Mr. Colfax, who the next day left his chair to offer a resolution of expulsion. A very exciting debate arose, in which Mr. Cox defended Mr. Long, and Mr. Harris, of Maryland out-Heroded Herod. He said:

"He indorsed every word that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Long) had uttered, and would stand by him for weal or woe. You say that the gentleman (Mr. Long) meant treason at the very moment that you say he was sincere and honest. He was willing to go with his friend (Mr. Long) anywhere on this issue. Could not a man say when a war is carried on to exterminate a people, that he would rather have peace, thus saving lives on both sides? We were a ground down people. He (Mr. Harris) was a peace man—a radical peace man. He was for recognizing the Southern Confederacy, and for acquiescing in the doctrine of secession. He had a hope, but it was not in this House. He hoped a tornado would come and sweep you from power, and give it to honest men who have feelings of humanity and some regard for the principles of their fathers. War would never bring you a termination worth a cent. He was for peace and Union too (laughter). He was a better man than any of them (renewed laughter). If we cannot make peace, let us have two splendid governments—two happy governments. He was a slaveholder, and was so still, if all his slaves had not been stolen from him. He looked on those who opposed slavery as madmen. He compassionated them. If slavery was a sin he was willing to bear it. The North have been deceived by stereotype falsehoods. When this war commenced, Secretary Seward said it could be put down in sixty days. Instead of 70,000 men ending it, you have called for half a million soldiers to serve a king who is the war power. The South asks you to leave them in peace; but now you say you will bring them into subjection. That is not done yet, and God Almighty grant that it never may be. I hope that you will never subjugate the South."

Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, promptly moved the expulsion of Mr. Harris for "treasonable language and a gross contempt of the House." The resolution was adopted by a vote of 81 yeas to 58 nays, but, failing to obtain two-thirds of the House, was ineffectual.

SOJOURNER TRUTH.—We have a letter from this remarkable woman, dated Detroit, April 4th, in which she says: "I am about to leave here in a few days for my home in Battle Creek. Will you say to friends wishing to write me that they should direct their letters to the care of Dr. White, Battle Creek, Michigan. I have had three photographs taken of me here in as many different positions, and which are considered much better likenesses than the old ones. I sell the whole for $1.00. The publication of my Narrative was to cost so much in these hard times that I could not have sold it at the old price; and as the lady who undertook to raise a fund for the purpose did not raise sufficient sum, I used what she did obtain in paying for photographs and for publishing some songs, which I hope to sell on my way to see the Freedmen, and thus bear the expenses of the journey. I have also purchased the copy-right of my photographs. I expect to be in New York some time in June."

The new photographs are excellent—better, we think, on the whole, than the old ones. In the margin stand the words: "I sell the shadow to support the substance."

Chronicles of the War.

Latest News in Brief.

From the Department of the Gulf, we have intelligence of the continued success of the Red River expedition. Alexandria and Natchitoches have been occupied and left behind. The gunboats have managed to overcome the shoals, and the land forces are said to have taken Shreveport already.

The gunboat Bragg had established a blockade at the mouth of the Red River, and none but government steamers were allowed to enter the stream.

Gen. Mower has captured seventeen cannon since reaching the Red River.

The rebel ram Tennessee was struck by a squall on the 1st inst., while lying near Grant's Pass, causing her to keel over and sink. But two feet of her smoke-stack now remains visible. Her armament will prove a heavy loss to the rebels. It consisted of six 100 pounder rifled Parrotts, and nearly as many small pieces.

The election in Louisiana, on the 28th, for delegates to the Constitutional Convention, resulted in the complete triumph of the Free State (*Banks-Hahn*) *party*.

A dispatch from Fort Smith, Aakansas, says:

"Gen. Steele's army has driven the rebels from Arkadelphia, and is now advancing on Price in the direction of Camden and Washington."

From Little Rock, March 27th:

Col Clayton, with a small force of cavalry and infantry and one battery, went to Mount Elba, on the Salem River. Leaving the infantry and artillery there to guard the bridge and cover Pine Bluff, he proceeded with his cavalry toward Longview, further down the Salem, and 20 miles south-west, where the main body of the rebel army was stationed, for the purpose of destroying the pontoon bridges and the army stores at that place.

Lieut. Greathouse of the 1st Indiana, and Lieut. Young of the 5th Kansas cavalry, sent an advance of 100 men, and, arriving at the bridge, saw a large force of rebels opposite preparing to cross. Our officers hailed the enemy, told them they belonged to Shelby's command (which dresses in Union uniform), informed them that the Unionists were upon them, and begged them to hurry to their vessels.

The rebels rushed forward, and as fast as they crossed were captured, and their guns thrown into the river. In this way 260 were captured, and 35 wagons laden with supplies, taken, which were destroyed; also, 300 horses and mules. A Paymaster's safe, containing $60,000 in Confederate money, was also captured. The bridge was afterward burned.

This and the march of 80 miles was accomplished in 24 hours.

The prisoners captured during the expedition, numbering 370, including many officers, reached Little Rock on the 2d.

Brig. Gen. Nath. Kimball is assigned to the command of all the troops along the North Arkansas river, with headquarters in Little Rock. In a circular to the citizens of his district, he says, the loyal shall be protected, and sympathizers with the rebellion, though they may have taken the oath of allegiance to the government, will be treated as rebels, unless they conform in word and act to the spirit of that oath.

Gen. Gillmore's report of the Florida expedition demonstrates, *first*, that the plan of the expedition was his own and that it had three distinct and sufficient military objects, to which a fourth, not military, was at a later period adjoined by the President. *Second*: That the battle of Olustee was fought in consequence of an advance by Gen. Seymour, not only without, but clearly against Gen. Gillmore's orders. The effort of the latter to countermand it was frustrated by a storm, which delayed his messenger.

A flag of truce was sent from Jacksonville on the 21st ult., to ascertain the condition of our wounded in the enemy's hands, Chaplain Chapman, of the 69th N. Y., was allowed to go to Tallahassee and judge for himself. We have reports that our wounded in the enemy's keeping are not receiving the best of treatment. The colored soldiers, especially, are made to suffer terribly. Amputations are performed in the most cruel manner, so that in nearly every instance the patient dies. If the inhuman wretches called rebels persist in this monster practice, our troops in the field will certainly demand a measure of retaliation.

A few shells are occasionally sent into Charleston. Also, at long intervals, Fort Sumter receives the attention of both the land and naval batteries. The famous 30-pounder Parrott at Cummings's Point, which ha been so actively engaged in shelling Charleston, exploded after having fired 4,615 rounds. The pieces of the gun have been collected for transmission to the North.

Gen. Grant's new general order for the army of the Potomac clears away the hindrances to an active movement, which must now soon be looked for. The first two paragraphs contain the spirit of the whole:

First: In view of the near approach of the time when this army may be expected to resume active operations, corps and other independent commanders will cause public and private property, for which transportation is not furnished by existing orders, to be sent to the rear with as little delay as practicable.

Second: All sutlers and their employees will leave this army by the 16th inst., and should sutlers be found with the army after that date, their goods will be confiscated for the benefit of the hospitals, and their employees be placed by the Provost Marshal at hard labor.

The Maryland election for delegates to a Constitutional Convention, on Wednesday the 6th, resulted in 24,000 votes for, and 11,000 against the Convention. The immediate and unconditional emancipationists have a good working majority.

The Army and the Negroes.

"EVERY WHERE THE AMERICAN GENERAL RECEIVES HIS MOST USEFUL AND RELIABLE INFORMATION FROM THE NEGRO, *who hails his coming as the harbinger of Freedom.*"—*Wm. H. Seward's Official Dispatch to Mr. Adams.*

ANOTHER REVIEW BY GENERALS GRANT AND BUTLER.

Fortress Monroe is honored to-day by a very distinguished visitor. A no less personage than Lieut.-Gen. Grant is now the guest of Gen. Butler. The arrival of the Western hero, though announced by no parade, soon became generally known, and every man, woman, and child, of all colors and descriptions, was on the *qui vive* in order to obtain a view of the celebrated stranger. This afternoon, accompanied by Gen. Butler and staff, he reviewed the colored troops stationed in the vicinity of the Fortress. Never was there greater contrast in personal appearance as the two Generals rode out side by side. The peculiarities of both men are too well known to need description. They would give even a casual observer the impression that they were men not to be trifled with. There is a quiet, easy grace and dignity about Gen. Grant, which, combined with his unassuming manner, prepossesses every one in his favor.

It really was a rare privilege to look upon these two giants who had so wonderfully changed the face of the social and political world—a privilege that millions have and will covet. The nation and the world are waiting in suspense for the opening of the great and decisive campaign of the coming Summer. No words can portray the awful magnitude of the interests at stake. Among the most prominent actors in the grand drama will be the two men who rode out so quietly this afternoon. Men who were considered great in the past will diwindle to pigmies at their side. Yet their manner was far from expressing a consciousness that the eyes of the world were directed towards them. One need not live long to discover that only little men strut and try to appear large.

The troops reviewed evidently appreciated the honor, and acquitted themselves in the most soldier-like manner. I have seen many reviews in the Army of the Potomac, but never did our most thoroughly drilled veterans keep time, step, and rank more perfectly than these ebony warriors. A company of white horses with their dusky riders presented a very novel appearance. Everything pertaining to equipment and uniform in each arm of the service—cavalry, artillery, and infantry—was scrupulously neat and trim. The artillerists especially, with their red blankets and high collars, were amazingly dignified, and fairly leaned over backwards, so grand and important did they feel under the circumstances. No one not blind with prejudice will deny that these colored men make a fine soldier-like appearance in the national uniform. But as Fortress Monroe is the central point of the great experiment which is now testing the capabilities of the African race, I will write more on this subject at other times.—*Cor. Brooklyn Union, Fortress Monroe, April* 1.

A REVIEW OF COLORED TROOPS,

For the edification of Gen. Simon Cameron, the venerable ex Secretary of War, who was at this post several days, spending his time with Gen. Butler, was held yesterday afternoon at Camp Hamilton, and proved a very brilliant affair. The reviewed column consisted of cavalry, infantry and a battery of light artillery, and reflected the highest credit on Col. Gerard, First colored cavalry, commanding the brigade. Prior to the arrival of the Commanding General the column was drawn up in line, making a very fine show. Owing, however, to the recent rain storm the ground was not in a good condition as could have been desired. At three o'clock Maj-Gen. Butler, accompanied by Gen. Cameron, Col. Jonas H. French, late Provost Marshal General at New Orleans; Mr. Richardson, Col. Newell A. Thompson, of Boston, and his entire staff, came riding on to the parade ground, and inspected the troops. After that the cavalry and infantry passed in review, marching with the precision of regulars. The light battery subsequently repassed in "double quick," manœuvering with great ease and accuracy.

A CAVALRY CHARGE

Was the next order on the programme. Several of Gen. Butler's guests expressing a desire to see the regiment of mounted men make a charge, Col. Gerard was ordered to do so, and issued the command to his subordinates to that effect. On the last "left turn" the order to "trot march" was issued, and when the leading column arrived within two hundred yards of the reviewing officer the commander of the troop shouted "Charge!" and the troopers, digging spurs into their steeds, and yelling like so many released demons, dashed forward on a breakneck pace; and nothing short of a veteran army could have withstood so terrible an onslaught had an attack been made with so much impetuosity. It is true several of the riders were unhorsed, and presented a woeful appearance on picking themselves up. One fellow, in falling, lost his cap, and his horse galloped off in company with the others. This man was bent on recovering his head gear, never mind ing his horse, when the next company came dashing on in its mad career, and he finally took to his heels, and barely escaped being trampled under the horses' hoofs. But on the whole the charge of the "dark brigade" was a highly successful affair, reflecting great credit on the Colonel commanding, as also on the Commanding General, who took so much pains to organize these troops. Among the distinguished spectators present at the review were a number of officers and civilians, also Mr. M. B. Brady, of New York city, who is on a short visit, and leaves to-night.—*Cor. Herald, Fortress Monroe, March 28th.*

THE BLACK TROOPS AT PADUCAH.

Col. Hicks praises warmly the colored men who fought under him in defence of the fort near Paducah. They behaved bravely, and handled their weapons skilfully. The Colonel is an old soldier, and his praise is worth something. All his troops were raw, but they had terrible schooling.

A PLANTATION SAVED BY COLORED CAVALRY.

Vicksburg advices of the 31 inst. say the Rebels attacked Brooks's plantation at 2 o'clock on Friday morning. The plantation is situated seven miles above Snyder's Bluff, on the Yazoo River, and is one of the largest in the State. It had extensive cotton works and splendid buildings, all of which were destroyed. One negro and four children were burned in the buildings.

The 1st Massachusetts Cavalry (colored), 600 strong, quartered near the plantation, maintained a fight with the rebels until 8 o'clock in the morning, when they charged and repulsed the enemy, numbering 1,500 strong.

Our loss was 16 killed. The rebel loss is unknown, but 10 killed and wounded were left in our hands.

The Plantation had been leased by the government, and was being extensively worked by the lessee.

AARON M. POWELL will address meetings at

Auburn, N. Y., Sunday, April 17.
Union Springs, N. Y., Tuesday, April 19.
Aurora, N. Y., Wednesday, April 20.
Sherwoods, N. Y., Thursday, April 21.
Poplar Ridge, N. Y., Friday, April 22.
Canastota, N. Y., Sunday, April 24.
Oneida, N. Y., Monday, April 25.

Summary.

John C. Rives, for about 30 years the publisher of The Congressional *Globe*, died yesterday at his residence in Washington, aged 63 years.—*Tribune, April* 11.

William D. Ticknor, the well known Boston publisher of the house of Ticknor and Fields, died very suddenly on Sunday morning at the Continental Hotel, in Philadelphia.

It is now understood that the Radicals in Missouri will send delegates to the Baltimore Convention. The Blair party having already resolved to do so, this will make two sets of delegates, each claiming to represent the Union sentiment.

Mrs. Lucretia Hart Clay, wife of Henry Clay, died on the 6th inst. at the residence of her son, John M. Clay, near Lexington, aged 83.

Mrs. Clay was the daughter of Col. Hart, of Lexington, and bore to her honored husband eleven sons and daughters, of whom but four survive.

Count Johannes, the patriot, philosopher, and prophet, predicted, in a speech he made last night in the Cooper Institute, that if Secretary Seward did not humbly apologize to the French Emperor for the resolution passed in the House last Monday, in ninety days the leading powers of the Old World would recognize the Southern Confederacy. Let Secretary Seward hear and heed. Children and fools somet

Miscellaneous Department.

"BLESSED ARE THEY THAT MOURN."

BY WM. H. BURLEIGH.

O, deem not that earth's crowning bliss
Is found in joy alone;
For sorrow, bitter though it be,
Hath blessings all its own;
From lips Divine, like healing balm
To hearts oppressed and torn,
This heavenly consolation fell—
"*Blessed are they that mourn.*"

As blossoms, smitten by the rain,
Their sweetest odors yield—
As where the plowshare deepest strikes,
Rich harvests crown the field;
So, to the hopes by sorrow crushed,
A nobler faith succeeds;
And life, by trials furrowed, bears
The fruit of loving deeds.

Who never mourned hath never known
What treasures grief reveals—
The sympathies that humanize—
The tenderness that heals—
The power to look within the vail
And learn the heavenly lore—
The key-word to life's mysteries,
So dark to us before.

How rich and sweet and full of strength
Our human spirits are,
Baptized into the sanctities
Of suffering and of prayer!
Supernal wisdom, love Divine,
Breathed through the lips which said,
"*O blessed are the souls that mourn—
They shall be comforted.*"

THE BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House is divided into four sections: 1st. The government (supposed to be liberal) and its straight-out supporters; 2. The partial supporters of the government; 3. The Opposition and its straight-out supporters; 4. the partial supporters of the Opposition. The government, with Lord Palmerston and the Cabinet, sit on the Speaker's right, the officers occupying the first seat down on the floor (for the benches rise higher as they recede to the wall). This section attracts the greatest attention, although perhaps the first inquiry of every one who enters the House is, "Which is Disraeli?" Lord Palmerston occupies the centre of the bench, where he seems to have been carved to stay quite as much as that very dog-like lion in oak at the door. He sits there by night—that shrewd, ready-witted, reddish, white-headed old Premier. There is not a sparkle about him, not a tint of romance, not a trait of heroism. He is a fair representative of England in her solstice; of England with no future before her except to hold on as long as she can to her past. On his left sits Mr. Gladstone, with strong features and a darkish look. He speaks with nerve, and as it were, sends out little bullets of speech—one of which was his famous declaration that "the King of Naples has erected Atheism into a system of government." Next is Mr. Layard, a solid, burly Englishman, with a flat voice, grayish hair, large moustache and beard, and a "spruced-up" dress. He has a good deal more humor than his position allows him to display. Mr. Horseman has just asked him if the government has heard of the report that a ship is going out from Liverpool to capture the Alabama, and whether the government will take the same care to prevent that that it has to prevent the departure of ships for the Confederacy. Mr. Layard rises and says he has only read something of the kind in the newspapers. The paper in which he read it had asked whether it was a Confederate dodge. In that case, the gentleman (Mr. Horseman) would know more of it than the government. There was a drollery in Mr. Layard's tone as he said this, and an involuntariness in the laugh that followed it, which made Horseman a thoroughly snubbed and uneasy man for the next ten minutes. On Palmerston's right sat Earl Grey, a man in build and appearance very much like Horace Mann during the last years of his life. He has, however, a poor husky voice, which Horace Mann had not. Earl Grey is evidently a sincere man, and a laborious Minister. Two seats behind Palmerston is Sir George Bowyer, the great Roman Catholic champion. Thin, pale, dark-eyed, sombre, nervous, and restless, one understands how and why Inquisitions existed, when one looks at him. He has the manners of a scholar, and the whole air of a fanatic; and he no doubt expects to see Grand Mass celebrated in Westminster Abbey yet. But certainly the most striking man in the House of Commons, is Disraeli, on the opposite side. I could well see how the authoress of "Counterparts" should have found him as susceptible of being a protean hero for her novels as Rubens found his wife for so many pictures. That face so transparently deep and dark, those thin cold lips, cruel and soft as those of a panther, that eye shadowed for a better measure of that upon which he is about to spring, that unconscious attitude of one ever lying in wait, crouching, the superb knotty strength over each eye, the singular sharp cliff which is all of the rather narrow forehead, the baldness which is not baldness but the interminable stretch of the forehead backward, the deep black hair, with the one strange Medusa-lock which curls down in front—all these rivet the attention. Disraeli is not an old man, but his face is full of lines and changes. Phrenologically one may say that his enormous powers of observation are his greatest strength. He evidently hears many an undertone which the Speaker meant should not be heard. Lately in the debate on Schleswig when Palmerston was trying to soothe the apprehension of those who fear that England would be involved in war, Disraeli detected that this soothing was for a special purpose, and that in reality the government was on the brink of war. He arose, and to the astonishment of all he so pressed this view, that Palmerston could not deny it, and so the fact that the country *is* drifting into war became for the first time suspected by the country at large. But Mr. Disraeli is almost the only man with anything attractive about him on that side. The Opposition seemed to me to be men of very narrow and weak faces and heads; and Disraeli looks strangely out of place among them. They are all supposed to be Tories; and yet on the Townley (criminal lunacy) case, I was glad to hear from one of them, Sir F. Kelly, a most impressive declaration against capital punishment. I was somewhat anxious to see Lord John Manners, who is known to the world entirely by that couplet of his—

> Let Laws and Learning, Arts and Customs die,
> But leave us still our old nobility.

And then he is a rather handsome, foppish man, dancing here and there and everywhere, side whiskers and moustache. It does not take a great deal of observation to see that if all the blessings enumerated in the first line *should* die, he (Lord John M.) would not be any poorer.

In that section devoted to the more moderate Tories—or opponents of the government—I saw few fine heads. I was much struck by the youth of some of the members of this section. It is led by Lord Robert Cecil, and is particularly the direction from which carping questions concerning the United States are asked. Here are the eyes which sleeplessly watch Mr. Seward. (It is remarkable that the great Opposition leader, Disraeli, and his immediate comrades very rarely say anything unfavorable to the United States, and nothing at all in favor of the Confederacy or slavery.) Lord Robert Cecil is a tall, slender man, with a snarl in his voice and a very conceited manner—that is all. But whence come these young boys, whom one might naturally expect to see in dry-goods shops, but not in the House of Commons? They are young scions of nobility, have come in on money, and were elected by Committees. They come here to loaf. It sounds very big by the time it gets across the ocean, that Mr. Peacocke said this and that about the United States; and it may be that Peacocke has some talent. But I do know that Peacocke struck me as most appropriately named. A flaming scarf, with big gold pin, covered his tender bosom—his dress was all *aufait*, his voice Dundrearyish, and his whole air that of a foppish boy; and all about him sat becurled and bescented young fops, which one could hope had simply eluded the doorkeeper in getting in. But opposite these sit the real representatives of the English people. These men are not the representatives of the aristocratic Committees, but of large communities and cities. Here sit, side by side, John Bright and Richard Cobden. And here sits Peter Taylor, who has given lately so powerful a speech at Leicester in behalf of America. The first thing that strikes one with reference to this section—the independent supporters of the government—is that they are the only men in the House who know how to speak. For the most part, the speaking in the House is (in manner) ludicrous. It certainly has the recommendation of being unstudied and to the point; but still it is not pleasant to see every speaker stuck to the floor with his head and body swinging regularly to and fro as if he were an inverted pendulum. Yet this is the Parliamentary style: the government ministers generally oscillate so, and nearly all the rest copy it, until it has become Parliamentary. Mr. Gladstone varies it only by clutching the table opposite and bending over it; and when he has become rigid, he speaks as if in a vice, with faint efforts of his head to give the usual oscillation. Disraeli puts one arm out and takes hold of something; but he does not swing much, and is better than those about him. Lord Robert Cecil's speaking is execrable; he does not know what to do with his hands. And then one rarely hears a sentence spoken in the House without its being cut up with a-a-a-'s. These of course are all clipped out by the friendly reporters, so that the speeches read finely; but even the formulas are interlarded as I have stated, e. g., "I would respectfully a-a inquire -a- of the a-a honorable -a- baronet -a- etc., etc." I am bound to say also that one has recalled to his mind every moment the voice, dress and air of Sothern's Lord Dundreary by these honorable gentlemen. But all these foibles end when we come to the section so ably represented by Bright and Cobden. Here are men who are evidently in the habit of speaking to large masses of people, and in the habit of doing it well. Mr. Bright is indeed the only man in the House who could be called an orator. His appearance is fine, his manner good and frank, his voice earnest and clear. Cool and calm he always is, but not so the Tories who listen to him; on them every word tells. Cobden is more elastic and more caustic; in manner not unlike Dr. Bellows, when that gentleman is so fortunate as to be speaking without his gown in some informal assembly. Another peculiarity of this independent section is that its benches are nearly always full. It is a curious fact that out of the 600 members of the House not more than 300 ever see the inside of that House, and so many only when some special struggle—e. g., on Church rates—requires every party to be present in force. The rest are merely nominal members, and the business of the government is carried on by some 150 or 200 men. None are in any way obliged to be present. They are paid nothing. They may spend a year in America or China and retain membership. But those who represent the people are regular in attendance, because they have an interest in the government and a purpose before them.

There are some, however, in the House who are frequently seen there but who rarely take part in any debate; they seem to enjoy the House as a club. There, for instance, is Bulwer, a little grasshopper of a man; one wonders how Thackeray found enough of him for dissection. He generally sits near the Opposition, and on that side; but he never says anything, though he looks wise.

The fine-looking and vigorous Mr. Kinglake now attracts much attention. He sits in the same neighborhood, and the government evidently feels restless when he criticizes. He is an earnest man, and will one day be a more important man in the country than he is now.—*M. D. Conway, in the Tribune.*

AMONG THE SLAVES OF ARKANSAS.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

Since my first arrival in this region of Arkansas, a month ago, I have seen very few able-bodied slaves; but *young* colored boys and girls, and men and women too old to be of any account as laborers in a cotton or tobacco field, appear to be about as numerous as ever. The absence of the working class is easily accounted for; thousands have been taken to Texas, and other thousands have emancipated themselves from the hard and unpaid labor and grievous stripes which for so many weary years they were compelled to do and to suffer. So far as my observation goes, the slaves still remaining here are *completely demoralized.* They are thoroughly posted in regard to the President's proclamation, and their belief in the final success of the Union arms is as firm as was the determination of the Apostles to suffer death in its most agonizing form sooner than deny the religion of Christ. Their ideas regarding the war are crude, but in the main correct. It is a mystery to them where all the Union soldiers come from, and they are equally at a loss to account for the rapid increase of gunboats on the Mississippi and its tributaries, have been frequently asked if "de Yankee sojers wasn't mos' done comin'," and "whar was all de gunboats made"; and my reply to the first of these questions was pretty sure to call forth such an exclamation as "Hi? didn't tink so many Yankees libed in God's bressed land," or, "Missus tole me good while ago dat mos' all de Yankee sojers was done gone, but day keeps comin' along." The negroes have an idea that the North is a perfect paradise. They call it "God's country," and firmly believe if they were there their earthly troubles would be at an end. I told several of them that people up North had to work very hard, and that no person was permitted to live there unless he was willing to support himself and family; and all with whom I conversed on this topic were decidedly emphatic in expressing their willingness to "work de fingers right down to de bone" at any kind of employment which they might be fortunate enough to obtain in a Northern State. They are very much in love with Chicago, and appear to have an idea that it is the nicest place within the boundaries of "God's country."

I was very much amused a few evenings ago at some remarks made by an old negro named Joe. My Secession friend and I were sitting in front of his door, talking about the war—he claiming that the South couldn't be whipped, and I arguing that that thing was a good deal more than half done already—when a middle-aged negro came along, leading a horse that did not seem able to stand without artificial support. Upon nearing us he politely bowed, and said to my friend:

"Good ebenin,' massa."

"Good evening, Joe," was the kind response; and Joe began moving off. Just at this moment my friend appeared to think of something else to say, and he remarked: "Joe, did you hear that Roberts had gone to Texas?"

"Yes, massa, I knew de day he lef'."

"He took all his 'boys,' I believe."

"Yes, massa—he took 'em all; what he go to Texas for?"

"I suppose he want to keep out of the way of the Yankees."

These words had no sooner left my friend's mouth than a singular change came over Joe. Before their utterance he was altogether undemonstrative in his manner, but when he caught their full meaning, his countenance evinced pleasure and surprise in about equal proportions. In a moment he began to laugh, but checked himself suddenly, and said:

"Couldn't help laughin', Massa. My Missus tole me de Yankees couldn't git Memphis; *but dey're dere now.* Den she said dere wasn't enough of 'em lef' to come furder down de riber; *but dey went all de way down.* Den Missus say dey can't come up de White, no how; *but dey* DID *come*—and dey went to de Rock (Little Rock), an' dey stayed dar; an' I jes' b'lieve dey mean to stay eberywhar; an' before Massa Roberts sees anoder buffalo gnat dey'll be all *ober* Texas, an' he won't hab enough niggrs lef' to drive de cow home."

The italicized part of Joe's brief oration was spoken with deep emphasis, and the effect of the words was greatly increased by the appropriate gestures which accompanied them. He did not wait for any mark of approval or censure, but made his adieus rather hurriedly, and started for his mistress's residence with his living scarecrow close in his rear.

Turning to my friend, I said, "That's a pretty sharp darky, I should say."

"He is that," was the reply; "he's got any quantity of hard sense; and he's a right good fellow, too—I never heard anything bad of him."

I then asked if, in case the war were brought to a close on condition that the rebellious States should send Senators and Representatives to Congress, and the Emancipation proclamation were withdrawn, would it be a possible thing to keep the slaves under the same subjection as before the beginning of the war? The reply was:

"Certainly not. No matter what the result of the war may be, our system of forced labor, as it once existed, has been wiped away. If the whole force of the North and South, both civil and military, were used to compel the negroes to stay with and labor for their owners, it would not effect the desired object. To be sure, the slaves *might* be forced to work, but each slave would require a white man to watch him nearly all the time. The slaves understand that they are, or soon will be, free. But they are universally demoralized, and no work can be got out of them unless they choose to do it. The old plan of a white man driving two or three hundred slaves to a sugar or cotton field every morning, and keeping them at work by the persuasive influence of a heavy whip, would not be a safe one to try now; at all events *I* would not like to make any such experiment. A good many of my friends are short-sighted enough to differ with me on this point; they profess to believe that the slaves are as contented as ever, and that if peace were proclaimed to-morrow, every cotton and sugar planter would be on the high road to fortune. But I tell you the negroes are spoiled—they have learned more within three years than they ever thought of learning—the President's proclamation is as familiar to them as it is to us; and although it has been ridiculed North as well as South, I consider it the most potent weapon that the North could have used. Southerners may sneer at it, but they well know its power. I don't believe there is a slave in Arkansas who has not heard all about it. Of course the majority of the slaves do not know exactly *how* they are to be made free; neither can they tell *when* an event of such importance to their race is likely to occur; but they are waiting patiently for the good time coming, and so long as hope lasts they will labor tolerably well, and refrain from acts of violence. But let them be made to believe that the United States government intends to break the solemn promise which it made to them on the first of last January—let them once understand that their anticipations of freedom are not to be realized in the manner which they expected—and they will make a second San Domingo of every Southern State. I know them better than you do, and in the contingency which I have just supposed, I wouldn't trust them with my life, or the lives of my family, for any amount of gold that you could name. They would be like an avalanche, perfectly harmless while stationary, but irresistible after attaining a little headway."

I suggested to my friend that his ideas agreed pretty well with the Abolitionists of New England, and he replied:

"I can't help that. I hate an Abolitionist worse than I ever hated a snake, but I believe just what I say, and if the d—d Abolitionists where you come from agree with me I am not to blame."

Before I had time to make another remark a curly-headed girl—who reminded me very forcibly of the incorrigible Topsy—made her appearance in front of my friend, and said: "Massa, supper's on de table." So we proceeded to the dining-room, and sat down to a meal composed of corn-bread, bacon, sweet potatoes, and a hot drink called coffee, but made out of water and parched corn. OBSERVER.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA—1863.

[The following high-toned and expressive poem is taken from the new volume of poems by Richard Monckton Milnes, lately elevated to the English peerage under the title of Lord Houghton. He is one of the most respected and beloved noblemen in England, and a man of comprehensive intellect, exquisite culture and refinement. He is distinguished for the sweetness of his character and the unwearied practical beneficence of his life. His friendship to our country has always been strong and steady.]

We only know that in the sultry weather,
Men toiled for us as in the steaming room,
And in our minds we hardly set together
The bondman's penance and the freeman's loom.

We never thought the jealous gods would store
For us ill deeds of time-forgotten graves,
Nor heeded that the May Flower one day bore
A freight of pilgrims, and another slaves.

First on the bold upholders of the wrong,
And last on us, the heavy-laden years
Avenge the cruel triumphs of the strong—
Trampled affections, and derided tears.

Labor, degraded from her high behest,
Cries, "Ye shall know I am the living breath,
And not the curse of man. Ye shall have Rest—
The rest of Famine and the rest of Death."

O, happy distant hours! that shall restore
Honor to work, and pleasure to repose,
Hasten your steps, just heard above the war
Of wildering passions and the crash of foes.

THE GRAVES OF THEODORE PARKER AND MRS. BROWNING.

The Porta a Pinta is one of the eastern gates of Florence. Through it passes the street that crosses the thick-shaded valley of the Arno, and winds by high-walled gardens and pleasant villas to the lofty summit of Fiesole. Close to the right hand of the gate, a wall some twenty feet high starts out of the city wall, and, suddenly curving southward, goes for about two hundred yards parallel with it, and then as abruptly turns westward and joins the wall. In its southern front are plain iron gates, opening into a small court. Opposite to them is a similar pair of gates over which is written, in French. "*They rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.*"

This is the Protestant Cemetery. Within its high walls and close under these ancient battlements lie what is mortal of Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Theodore Parker.

Their names were enough to draw our feet thither. The Sabbath-day finds us at the gates. The concierge responds to the bell from a neighboring cottage, and we are ushered into the sacred resting-place. The ground slopes up from the outer to the inner wall both from the south and the east. A broad path ascends from the gate to near the rear of the inclosure, where a handsome marble column is surmounted by a cross. At right angles with this path another passes from the wall of the cemetery to that of the city. On the first path, about half-way up, not more than six or eight rods from the entrance, on the left hand side, just over an outer border of box and an inner one of roses, is a small square, sufficiently large for but two bodies. It is inclosed by a low iron rail, resting on four low gray sandstone pillars. In the centre of the lot is a small block of the same stone, some eight inches square and high, with a cross engraved on the top. Over the little lot the myrtle is slowly and carelessly growing; and a pot with the tall flowerless stalk of an unhandsome plant, was negligently placed near the head of the grave.

This is the "long home" of Mrs. Browning.

The sun lay too fiercely upon it at that hour to allow the place to convey all the tender impressions that one could properly expect. Still, the roses glowing on every side, the tall slim cypresses that guarded the outer wall, the gray old walls of the city rising high over the head, and covered thick with ivy, the intense quiet of the spot, and, above all, the mountains of mingled brown and green that lifted themselves high above the walls and the valley beyond, filling all the horizon with strength and beauty—these made the spot worthy of her whose body slept below. The charm of the purple sunset was subsequently thrown over the scene. But the full blaze of that harvest sun was more accordant with the former, certainly more with the present life of her great soul then any fading of a glimmering landscape—any tokens of approaching dark. Her eyes, powerless to confront the blaze of the sun, delighted to gaze unwinking on the fuller effluence of truth. No writer of this age saw it more clearly or pronounced its decrees with more authority. The first poetess of the English—of any tongue, she laid all her treasure upon the altar of God in Christ, and Christ in man. As a prophetess of God, she announces his curses on America for her sin against her children—prophecies which have been terribly fulfilled. With like courage she uttered like warnings against England for her treatment of the poor, which, unless that government speedily repents, abolishes the system of caste and crime, will as assuredly bring upon itself like calamities. Italy, in its struggles, won her sympathy; in its democratic chiefs, her confidence. The overthrow of those leaders, and the putting back of her liberties under the heel of France and despotism, would have met with her most tearful sympathies and most burning indignation. Thus we muse over the narrow house of this scholarly, gifted, consecrated woman. We leave her in the warm bright sun, which her nature loved so well, in a garden full of roses; awaiting, in blessed hope, the glorious resurrection. No monument marks her grave. The straggling ivy is its only covering. Whether this is to be her sole memorial or not, I did not learn. It would not be unlike her husband, judging from his works, to leave the spot untouched. Silence is golden.

Pass up the path to the central cross, and turn to the right. Go a few feet toward the wall. The path is lined with young cypresses. Close to it, on the left or north side, under the cypresses, in a cool and perpetual shadow, is a large, thick, gray sandstone slab, with this simple inscription: "Theodore Parker, born at Lexington, Massachusetts, United States of America, August 24, 1810. Died at Florence, May 10, 1860."

The spot is better kept than that of Mrs. Browning, and in a pleasanter spot—less sightly, less sunny. The thick grass about it was wet with the dew at that after mid-day hour. The grave was overrun with ivy and myrtle. Two rose-bushes were flourishing near the headstone, and a small evergreen shrub was growing near his feet. The tall cypresses covered it with their dense shade. From under their boughs you could look out eastward, and see the hills of Fiesole across the valley, with their bright villas—the tall gray tower of its ancient cathedral, and the lofty seat where Lorenzo de Medici and his friends held high converse on Plato. The spot was very inviting, from its coolness, shade, and silence. The chirp of a few birds alone displaced the Sabbath stillness with Sabbath melody.

One could not look upon the spot without feeling that, after all, the desire of Jacob and Joseph was eminently human: "Bury me with my fathers." By faith he gave commandment concerning his bones." A foreign land may do to look at, but our own is the land to live and die in. Why Mr. Parker was left here, is to me a mystery. Pleasant and retired as is the spot, soft and grand as is the scenery, the grave-yard at Lexington is preferable.—*Rev. Gilbert Haven, in The Independent.*

CHARLOTTE CORDAY.

The details given by Sanson of this remarkable incident in the Reign of Terror are, as might be expected, more minute than any that have yet been given to the public; but they show the circumstances of the case, as depicted by Mr. Ward's pencil from previously existing data, to be perfectly correct. Charlotte had not returned ten minutes from her trial, at which she had conducted herself with unexampled firmness and ability, than M. Hauer, the artist, was introduced. She conversed with the artist, while engaged in his task, with perfect calmness for an hour and a half, when she suddenly remembered she had forgotten to write a letter. She had only penned a few lines when Sanson made his appearance. She went on with her work notwithstanding, and, when she had finished, she placed her chair in the middle of the room, and let down her beautiful hair to be cut off. "Since M. de la Barre," says Sanson, "I never witnessed so much courage in death! We were there six or seven citizens, whose business is not of a nature to soften the feelings, yet she appeared less affected than any of us, and even her lips had not lost their color. When her hair was cut off, she gave half to the artist and the remainer to Richard, the jailer, for his wife, who had manifested great interest in the unfortunate young lady." She went to the scaffold with the same remarkable intrepidity; there was not an atom of bravado—a simple, mild, pious resignation, or "a penetrating and irresistible sweetness," as the master of high works describes it. Robespierre, Desmoulins, and Danton were at a window in the Rue Saint Honoré, on the way, thinking, no doubt, when their turn would come. Arrived at the scaffold, she threw herself upon the fatal plank, and Fermin, one of the aides, having let loose the string, all was over in a moment. Sanson declares that he was at the foot of the scaffold, when a carpenter named Legros, having taken the head, was not satisfied with holding it up to the crowd, but actually slapped the face—a face admittedly of extraordinary beauty. This was too much even for a revolutionary tribunal, and Legros was justly punished for this act of sacrilege.—*Colburn's New Monthly Magazine.*

PETITION OF THE FREE COLORED CITIZENS OF LOUISIANA.

To his Excellency Abraham Lincoln, *President of the United States, and to the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled.*

The undersigned respectfully submit the following:

That they are natives of Louisiana, and citizens of the United States; that they are loyal citizens, sincerely attached to the country and the Constitution, and ardently desire the maintenance of the national unity, for which they are ready to sacrifice their fortunes and their lives.

That a large portion of them are owners of real estate, and all of them are owners of personal property; that many of them are engaged in the pursuits of commerce and industry, while others are employed as artisans in various trades; that they are all fitted to enjoy the privileges and immunities belonging to the condition of citizens of the United States, and among them may be found many of the descendants of those men whom the illustrious Jackson styled "his fellow-citizens," when he called upon them to take up arms to repel the enemies of the country.

Your petitioners further respectfully represent that over and above the right, which, in the language of the Declaration of Independence, they possess to liberty and the pursuit of happiness, they are supported by the opinion of just and loyal men, especially by that of Hon. Edward Bates, Attorney-General, in the claim to the right of enjoying the privileges and immunities pertaining to the condition of citizens of the United States; and, to support the legitimacy of this claim, they believe it simply necessary to submit to your Excellency, and to the Honorable Congress, the following considerations, which they beg of you to weigh in the balance of law and justice. Notwithstanding their forefathers served in the army of the United States, in 1814-15, and aided in repelling from the soil of Louisiana a haughty enemy, over-confident of success, yet they and their descendants have ever since, and until the era of the present rebellion, been estranged, and even repulsed—excluded from all franchises, even the smallest, when their brave fathers offered their bosoms to the enemy, to preserve the territorial integrity of the republic. During this period of forty-nine years, they have never ceased to be peaceable citizens, paying their taxes on an assessment of more than fifteen million of dollars.

At the call of Gen. Banks, they hastened to rally under the banner of Union and Liberty; they have spilled their blood, and are still pouring it out for the maintenance of the Constitution of the United States; in a word, they are soldiers of the Union, and they will defend it so long as their hands have strength to hold a musket.

While Gen. Banks was at the siege of Port Hudson, and the city threatened by the enemy, his Excellency, Gov. Shepley, called for troops for the defence of the city, and they were foremost in responding to the call, having raised the 1st regiment in the short space of forty-eight hours.

In consideration of this fact, as true and as clear as the sun which lights this great continent—in consideration of the services already performed, and still to be rendered by them to their common country, they humbly beseech your Excellency and Congress to cast your eyes upon a loyal population, awaiting, with confidence and dignity, the proclamation of those inalienable rights which belong to the condition of citizens of the great American Republic.

Theirs is but a feeble voice claiming attention in the midst of the grave questions raised by this terrible conflict; yet confident of the justice which guides the action of the government, they have no hesitation in speaking what is prompted by their hearts—"We are men; treat us as such."

Mr. President and Honorable members of Congress: The petitioners refer to your wisdom the task of deciding whether they, loyal and devoted men, who are ready to make every sacrifice for the support of the best government which man has been permitted to create, are to be deprived of the right to assist in establishing a civil government in our beloved State of Louisiana, and also in choosing their Representatives, both for the Legislature of the State and for the Congress of the nation.

Your petitioners aver that they have applied in respectful terms to Brig.-Gen. George F. Shepley, Military Governor of Louisiana, and to Maj.-Gen. N. P. Banks, commanding the Department of the Gulf, praying to be placed upon the registers as voters, to the end that they might participate in the reorganization of civil government in Louisiana, and that their petition has met with no response from those officers, and it is feared that none will be given; and they therefore appeal to the justice of the Representatives of the nation, and ask that all the citizens of Louisiana of African descent, born free before the rebellion, may be, by proper orders, directed to be inscribed on the registers, and admitted to the rights and privileges of electors.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

New Orleans, Jan. 5, 1864.

VETERANS OF 1812-14-15.

Maximilian Brulee, First Lieutenant,	C. Restor,
Raymond Gaillard,	A. Remy,
F. Scoffie,	M. Debergue,
Ml. Moreau,	Francois Pascal,
F. Tervalon,	B. Bazile,
P. Bonseigneur,	J. Assemad,
C. Bonseigneur,	Henry Chevarre,
J. Bonseigneur,	J. B. D. Bonseigneur,
A. Rouzan,	Joseph Frick,
B. Martin,	D. H. St. Hermann,
Edward Dupuis,	D. Foster,
Julien Hamelin,	Francois Pleise,
M. Ribaros,	Pierre Monette,
	A. Yillard.

SIGNATURES OF LOYAL UNION CITIZENS APPROVING THIS PETITION.

Thomas J. Durant,	J. Dawson,
Anthony Fernandez, President of the Louisiana Association of the Veterans of 1814-15, war of 1812; Founder of the first Union Association of this city, and its first President, and now President of the Union Republican Association, and member of the General Central Committee for State, of which the Hon. Thomas J. Durant is President,	Samuel Young,
	Charles W. Horner,
	James Graham,
	A. Commagere,
	D. Christie,
	James E. Tewell,
	William Baker,
	Ansel Edwards,
	William R. Crane,
	Henry Train,
	Dr. B. Maas,
	E. C. Hyde,
	J. A. Noble,
John F. Collins,	Charles Ogilvie,
Peter Rudolphes, President Union Association,	Rufus Waples,
	H. Mazerat,
	William Burt.

Followed by one thousand signatures of the free colored citizens of Louisiana.

MEMORIAL.

To his Excellency Abraham Lincoln, *President of the United States, and to the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:*

Your Memorialists respectfully show that they are loyal citizens of Louisiana, of African descent, born free. They have been appointed a Committee by the signers of the accompanying petition, to which this Memorial is supplementary, for the purpose of presenting the said petition, and urging, in person, the as your Memorialists believe—just claims therein contained.

That your Memorialists desire to present, for your favorable consideration, the following statement and prayer in addition to the accompanying petition—namely:

That, whereas, it may be urged that the United States has no authority to change the laws and Constitution of the State of Louisiana, as to the qualification of voters at State elections. This has already been done by the authority of the United States in respect to white citizens of Louisiana employed in the military and naval service of the United States, as will more clearly appear by what follows.

That the Constitution of Louisiana, title 2, article 12, excludes soldiers, seamen, or marines in the army or navy of the United States from the right of suffrage.

That, by General Order No. 24, from Headquarters Department of the Gulf, Maj.-Gen. N. P. Banks ordered that the citizens who had volunteered for the defence of the country in the army or navy, and who were otherwise qualified voters, should be allowed to vote in the election precincts in which they might be found on the day of election; thereby enfranchising those who were, by the Constitution and laws of Louisiana, disfranchised.

And your Memorialists further show that the Constitution and laws of Louisiana have been altered by the authority of the United States in other respects, and more particularly,

That by the proclamation of N. P. Banks, dated New Orleans, January 11, 1864, it was declared that the officers chosen in the election then approaching should constitute the civil government of the State under the Constitution and laws of Louisiana, except so much of the said Constitution and laws as *recognize, regulate, or relate to slavery.*

And your Memorialists further show that, though in their accompanying petition they have only asked the right of suffrage for those citizens of Louisiana, of African descent born free before the rebellion, yet that justice, and the principles for which they contend, require also the extension of this privilege to those born slaves, with such qualifications as shall affect equally the white and the colored citizen; and that this is required not only by justice, but also by expediency, which demands that full effect should be given to all the Union feeling in the rebel States, in order to secure the permanence of the free institutions and loyal governments now organized therein.

And your Memorialists pray that the right of suffrage may be extended not only to natives of Louisiana of African descent born free, but also to all others, whether born slave or free, especially to those who have vindicated their right to vote by bearing arms, subject only to such qualifications as shall equally affect the white and colored citizens.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

J. B. Roudanez,
Arnold Bertonneau,
Delegates of the Free Colored Population of Louisiana.

Washington, March 10, 1864.

SI DESCENDERO IN INFERNUM, ADES.

O, wandering dim on the extremest edge
Of God's bright providence, whose spirits sigh
Drearily in you, like the Winter sedge
That shivers o'er the dead pool stiff and dry,
A thin, sad voice, when the bold wind roars by
From the clear North of Duty,—
Still by cracked arch and broken shaft I trace
That here was once a shrine and holy place
Of the supernal Beauty,—
Of child's play-altar reared of stones and moss,
With wilted flowers for offering laid across,
Mute recognition of the all-ruling Grace.

How far are ye from the innocent, from those
Whose hearts are as a little lane serene,
Smooth-heaped from wall to wall with unbroke snows,
Or in the Summer blithe with lamb cropped green,
Save the one track, where naught more rude is seen
Than the plump wain at even
Bring home four months' sunshine bound in sheaves!—
How far are ye from those! yet who believes
That ye can shut out heaven?
Your souls partake its influence, not in vain
Nor all unconscious, as that silent lane
Its drift of noiseless apple-blooms receives.

Looking within myself, I note how thin
A plank of station, chance, or prosperous fate
Doth fence me from the clutching waves of sin;—
In my own heart I find the worst man's mate,
And see not dimly the smooth-hinged gate
That opes to those abysses
Where ye grope darkly—ye, who never knew
On your young hearts love's consecrating dew,
Or felt a mother's kisses,
Or home's restraining tendrils round you curled;
Ah, side by side with heart's-ease in this world
The fatal nightshade grows and bitter rue!

One band ye cannot break—the force that clips
And grasps your circles to the central light;
Yours is the prodigal comet's long eclipse,
Self-exiled to the farthest verge of night;
Yet strives no less with you that inward might
No sin hath e'er imbruted;
The god in you the creed-dimmed eye eludes;—
The Law brooks not to have its solitudes
By bigot feet polluted;—
Yet they who watch your God-compelled return
May see your happy perhelion burn
Where the calm sun his unfledged planets broods.

James Russell Lowell.

THE GUTTA-PERCHA TREE.

The tree called the Isonandra Gutta, which furnishes the gutta-percha, is a native of the Indian Archipelago and the adjacent lands. A few years since, this substance, now of such widely extended use, was totally unknown in Europe, for though from time immemorial the Malays employed it for making the handles of their hatchets and creeses, it was only in the year 1843 that Mr. Montgomery, an English surgeon, having casually become acquainted with its valuable properties, sent an account of it, with samples, to the Royal Society, for which he received its gold medal. The fame of the article spread rapidly throughout the world; science and speculation seized upon it with equal eagerness; it was immediately analyzed, studied, and tried in every possible way, so that it is now as well known and as extensively used as if it had been in our possession for centuries. The Isonandra Gutta is a large, high tree, with a dense crown of rather small dark green leaves, and a round smooth trunk. The white blossoms change into a sweet fruit, containing an oily substance fit for culinary use. The wood is soft, spongy, and contains longitudinal cavities filled with brown stripes of gutta-percha. The original method of the Malays, for collecting the resin, consisted in felling the tree, which was then placed in a slanting position, so as to enable the exuding fluid to be collected in banana leaves. This barbarous proceeding, which, from the enormous demand which suddenly arose for the gutta, would soon have brought the rapidly-rising trade to a suicidal end, fortunately became known before it was too late, and the resin is now gathered in the same manner as caoutchouc, by making incisions in the bark with a chopping-knife, collecting the thin white milky fluid which exudes in large vessels, and allowing it to evaporate in the sun, or over the fire. The solid residuum, which is the gutta-percha of commerce, is finally softened in hot water, and pressed into the form of slabs or flat pieces, generally a foot and a half long, and three inches thick. Gutta-percha has many properties in common with caoutchouc, being completely insoluble in water, tenacious but not elastic, and an extremely bad conductor of caloric and electricity. The uses of gutta-percha are manifold. It serves for water pipes, for vessels fit for the reception of alkaline or acid liquids which would corrode metal or wood, for surgical implements, for boxes, baskets, combs, and a variety of other arcicles.—*Hartwig's Tropical World.*

A MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL MA'AM IN GEORGIA.

A body of Federal prisoners had reached Rome, Georgia, en route for Richmond. Weary, famished, thirsting, they were herded like cattle in the street under the burning sun, a public show. It was a gala day in that modern Rome. The women magnificently arrayed came out and pelted them with balls of cotton and with such sneers and taunts as, "So you have come to Rome, have you, you Yankees? How do you like your welcome?"—and then more cotton and more words. The crowds and the hours came and went, but the mockery did not intermit, and our poor fellows were half out of heart. Major P. of an Ohio regiment, faint and ill, had stepped back a pace or two and leaned against a post, when he was lightly touched upon the arm. As he looked around, mentally nerving himself for some more ingenious insult, a fine looking, well dressed boy of twelve stood at his elbow, his frank face turned up to the Major's. With a furtive glance at a rebel guard who stood with his back to them, the lad, pulling the Major's skirt, and catching his breath boy-fashion, said, "Are you from New England?" "I was born in Massachusetts," was the reply. "So was my mother," returned the boy, brightening up; "she was a New England girl, and she was what you call a 'schoolma'am,' up North; she married my father, an I'm their boy, but how she *does* love New England and the Yankees, and the old United States, and so do I!" The Major was touched, as well he might be, and his heart warmed to the boy as to a young brother, and he took out his knife, severed a button from his coat and handed him for a remembrance. "Oh, I've got half a dozen just like it. See here!" and he took from his pocket a little string of them, gifts of other boys in blue. "My mother would like to see you," he added, "and I'll go and tell her."

"What are you doing here?" growled the guard, suddenly wheeling round upon him, and the boy slipped away into the crowd and was gone. Not more than half an hour elapsed before a lovely lady accompanied by the little patriot, passed slowly down the sidewalk next to the curb stone. She did not pause, she did not speak; if she smiled at all it was faintly; but she handed to one and another of the prisoners bank notes as she went. As they neared the Major, the boy gave him a significant look, as much as to say, "That's my New England mother." The eyes of the elegant lady and the poor, weary officer met for an instant, and she passed away like a vision, out of sight. Who will not join with me in fervently breathing two beatitudes: God bless the young Georgian, and blessed forever be the Northern school ma'am!—*Army Correspondence.*

Dr. Lyman Beecher's Church.—Mrs. Stowe, writing of her father's church when a girl at home, says: "How magnificent to my eye seemed the turnip-like canopy that hung over the minister's head, hooked by a large iron rod to the wall above; and how apprehensively did I consider the question, what would become of him if it should fall! How did I wonder at the panels on either side of the pulpit, in each of which was carved and painted a flaming red tulip, with its leaves projecting out at right angles; and then at the grape-vine in bas-relief on the front, with exactly triangular bunches of grapes, alternating at exact intervals with exactly triangular leaves. The area of the house was divided into large square pews, boxed up with stout boards and surmounted with a kind of baluster work, which I supposed to be provided for the special accommodation of us youngsters, being the loophole of retreat through which